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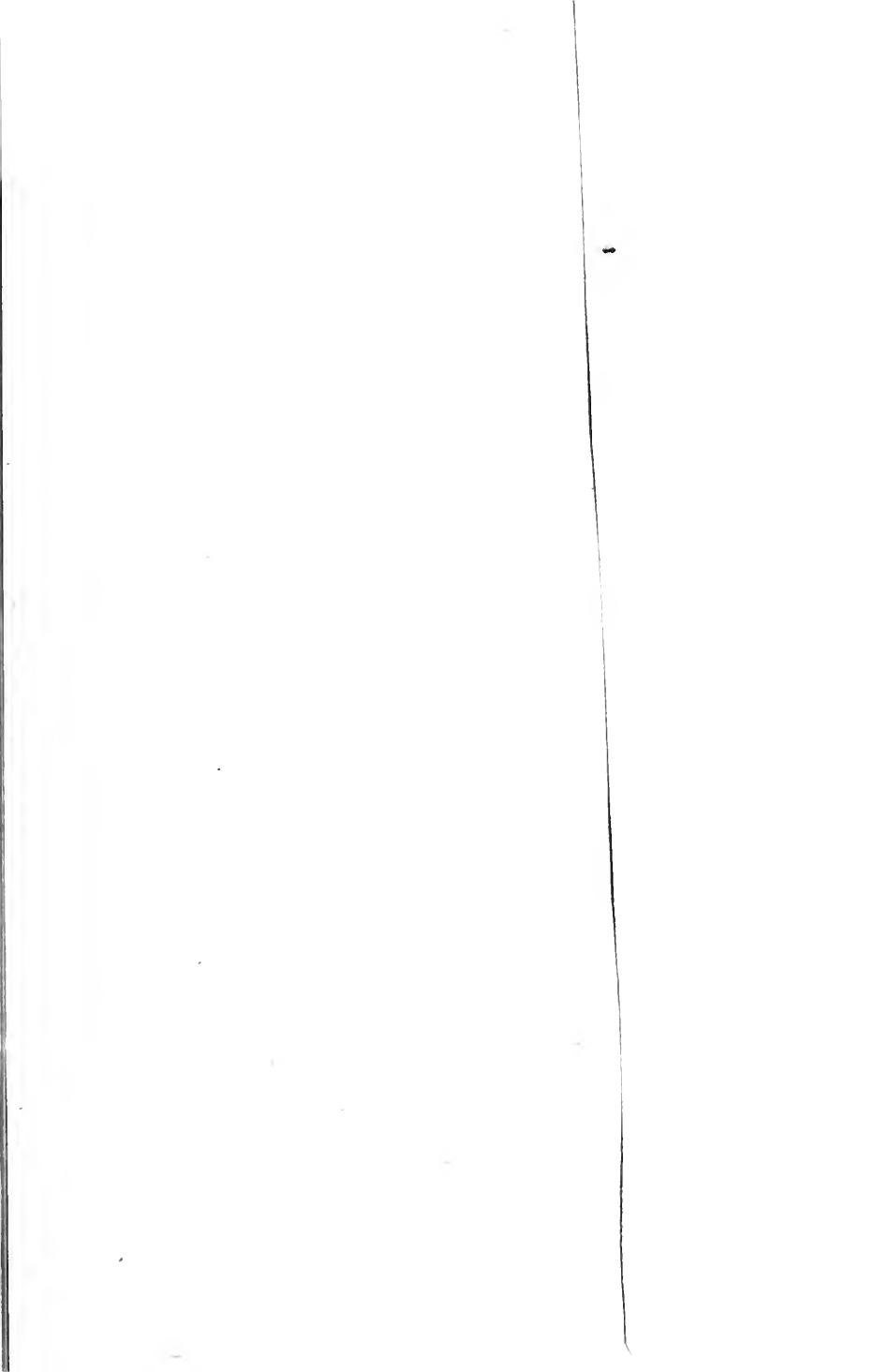
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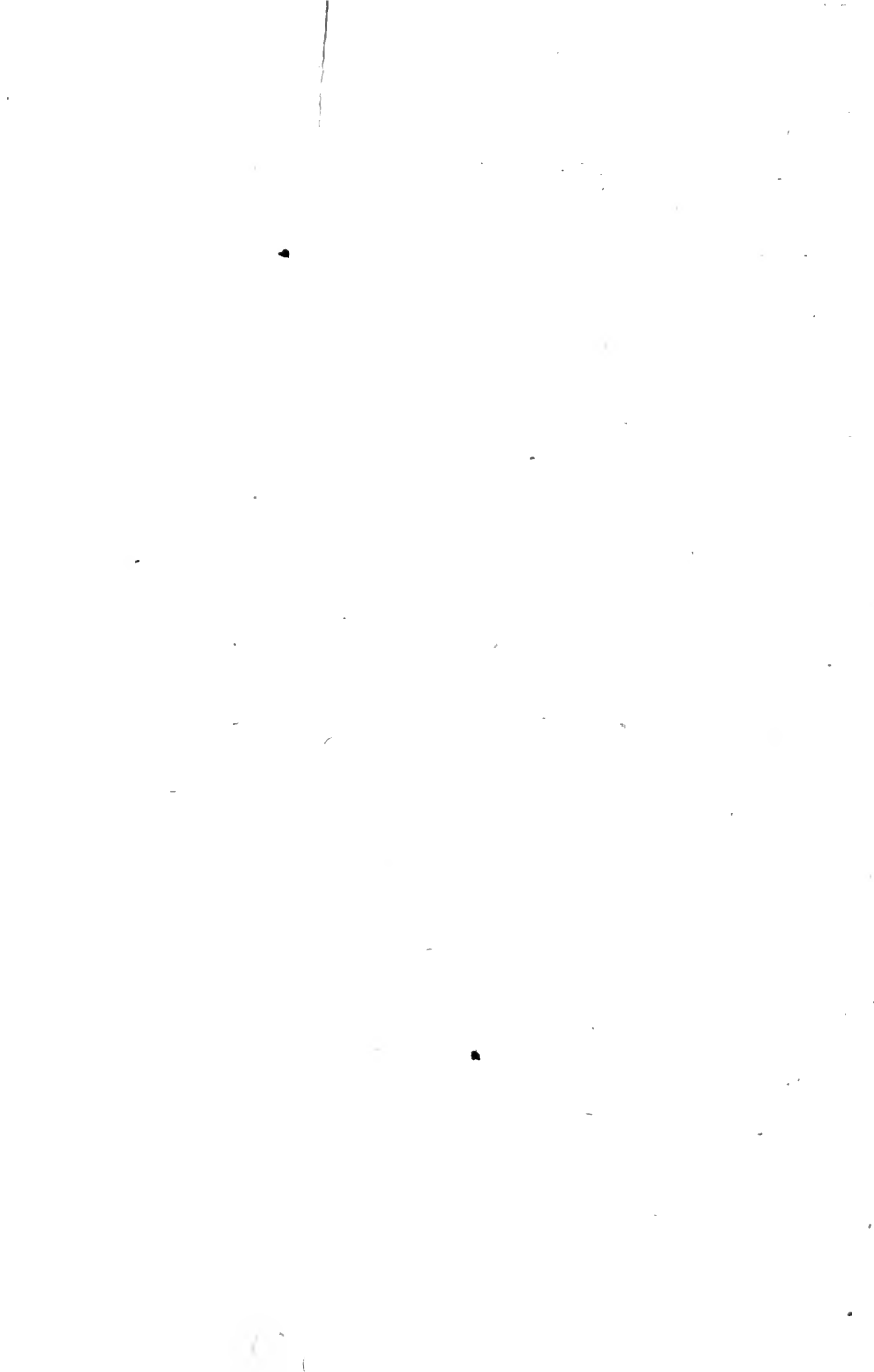
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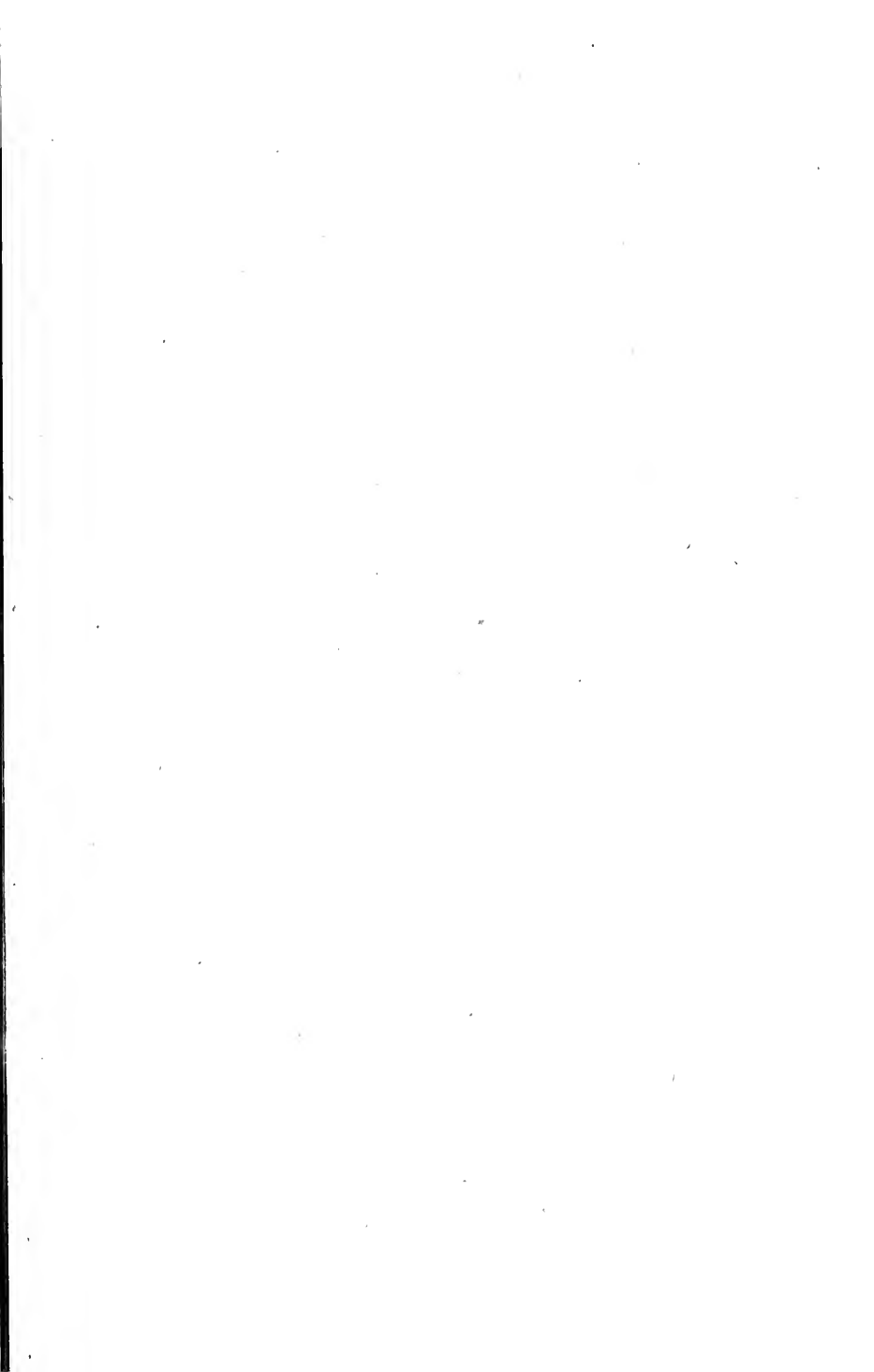


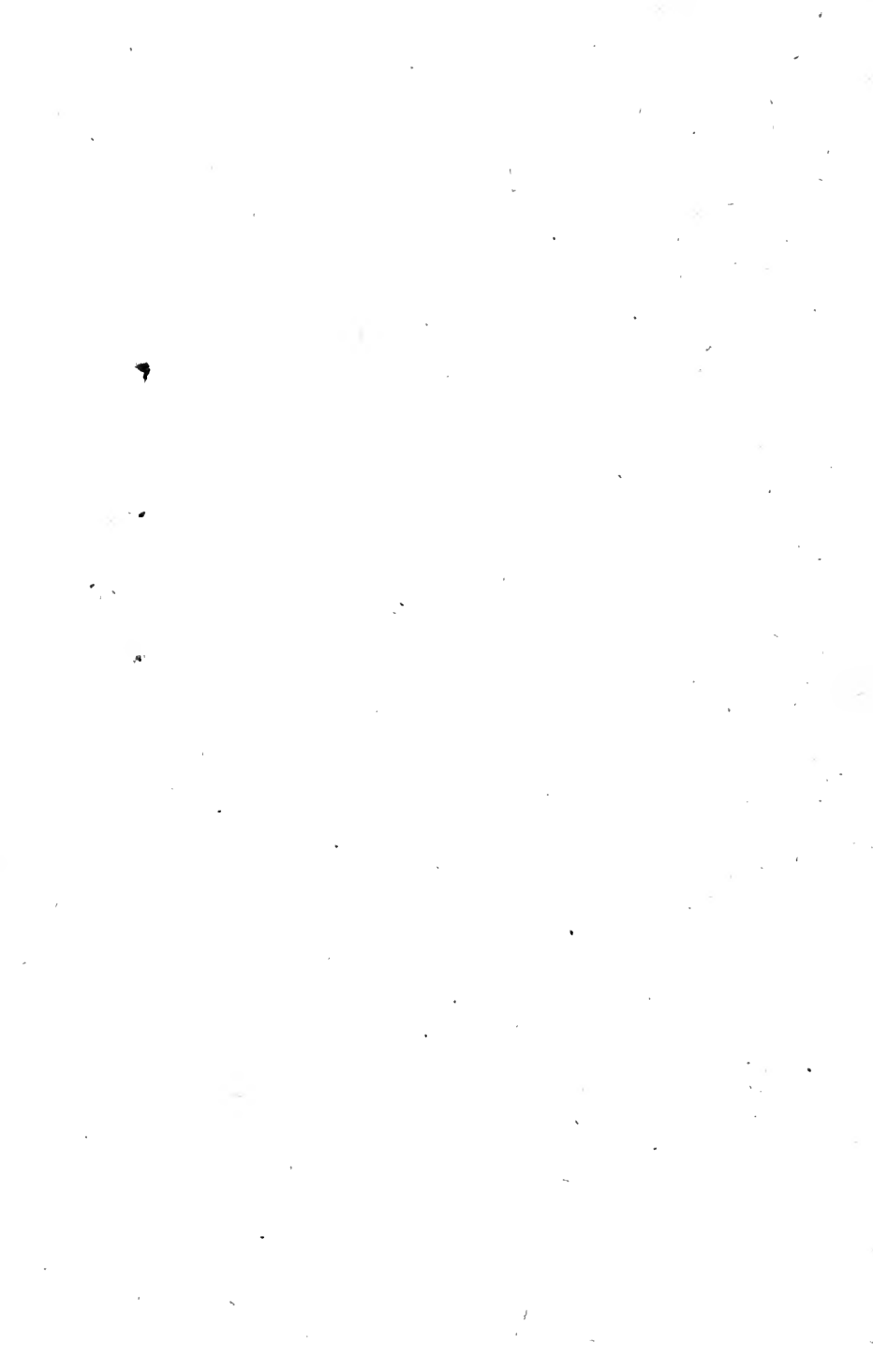










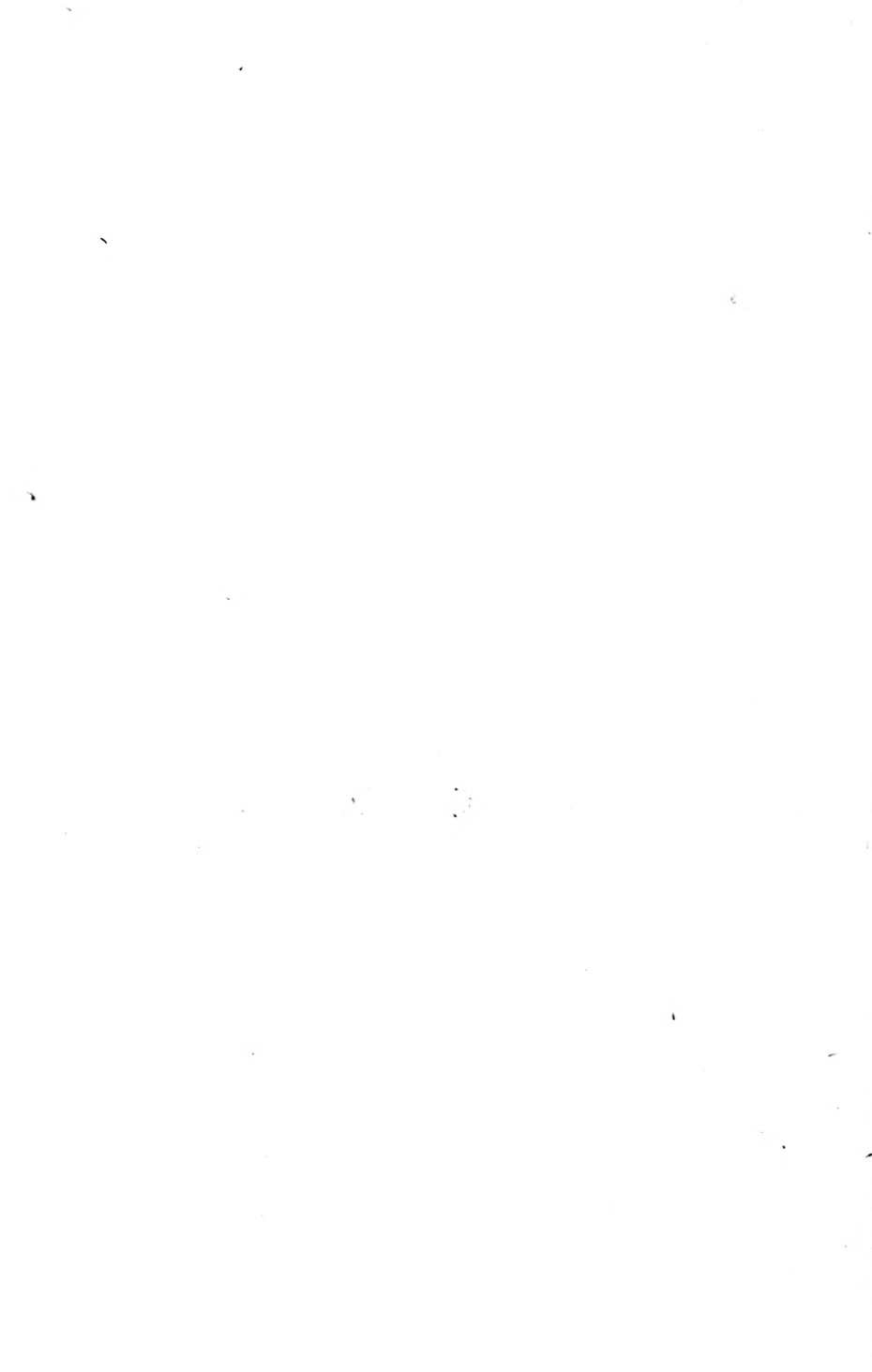


A

GENERAL VIEW

OF

S W E D E N.



A  
GENERAL VIEW  
OF  
SWEDEN:

CONTAINING,

Besides a Geographical Description of the Country,

AN ACCOUNT OF ITS

CONSTITUTION, RELIGION, CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LAWS,  
POPULATION, NATURAL RICHES, EXTERNAL AND  
INTERNAL COMMERCE, FINANCES, MONEY,  
WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES :

TOGETHER WITH

The Manners and Customs of its Inhabitants, the present State of the Arts and  
Sciences in that Kingdom, and the Form of Government  
as established in 1772.

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Translated from the FRENCH of MR. CATTEAU.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for G. G. J. and J. ROBINSON, Paternoster-Row.

M D C C X C.





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## AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

HAVING resided a long time in Sweden, travelled through the interior parts of the kingdom, and acquired a sufficient knowledge of the language spoken by the inhabitants, I thought myself qualified to undertake the following work, intended to give an account of a country rendered illustrious by a great number of eminent characters; a country which was a long time the arbiter of Europe, and which for twenty-two years withstood several formidable powers united in a league against it. Sweden, even after its decline, is doubtless worthy of attention, on account of its domestic revolutions; the efforts which it has made to repair its misfortunes; and the courage with which it lately combated an ambitious neighbour.

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To enable me to accomplish this task, several learned Swedes, well acquainted with every thing that concerns their country, communicated memoirs to me, and gave me every information that they possibly could. I am happy in having this opportunity of publicly acknowledging the obligations I am under to them, and of testifying my gratitude for their kindness.

A great many works have been published in Sweden respecting that country: of these I have taken advantage, and I confess that I have derived considerable assistance from them. *The History of Sweden, by Dalin; The Abridgment of that History, and The Political View of Sweden, by Lagerbring; The Geography of Sweden, by Tuneld; A Treatise on the Commerce of Sweden, by Zettersten; The Public Acts which relate to the Fundamental Laws of Sweden; The Public Acts collected by Modée; The Gazette of the Diets; The Dictionary of the Illustrious Men of Sweden, by Gezelius; The Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences; The Discourses pronounced*  
in

*in that Academy; The Memoirs of the Academy of Belles Lettres; The Memoirs of the Patriotic Society; The Journal of Medicine, and of the Searchers into Nature; and The Political and Literary Gazettes, published by Mr. Gjærval, are the principal sources from which I have drawn my information.*

Several works relating to Sweden have been also published in France, England, Germany, and other countries; but there are only two which I found of any use. I sometimes consulted *Sheridan's History of the Revolution in 1772, and Memoirs respecting the Political and Economical Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden, by Canzler.*

It is easy to collect materials, but it is difficult to arrange them and reduce them to order. I was long uncertain what plan I should follow: that which I have adopted appeared to me the clearest and most methodical. As I could not introduce, into the chapter on the Swedish Constitution, the whole of the *Form of Government established in 1772;*

and as that piece is highly worthy the attention of those who wish to be acquainted with the political laws of Sweden, I have placed it at the end of the Work.

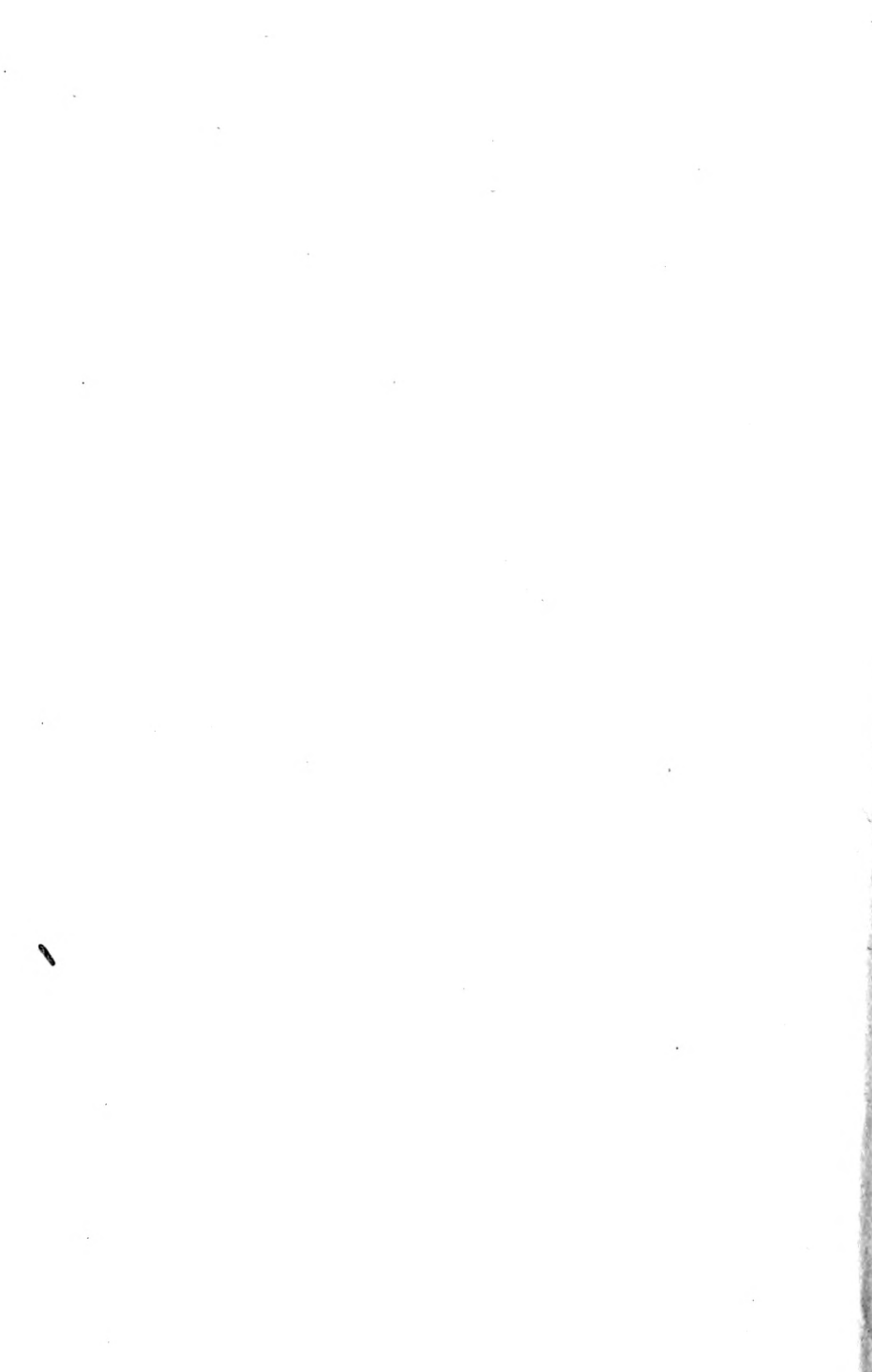
The greater part of foreign writers who have spoken of Sweden, have disfigured the names of places and persons: as for my part, I have preserved them such as I found them. I have therefore written *Baner*, and not *Banier*; *Oxenstierna*, and not *Oxenstern* or *Oxenstirn*; *Carlscrona*, and not *Carlscron*; *Nörköping*, \* and not *Norköping*, &c. *Mælar*, and not *Melar*.

I have, however, been obliged to deviate sometimes from this rule: the Swedes have in their alphabet an *a* with a small *o* over it, which is a letter peculiar to themselves: in the room of it I have substituted a common French *o*, as this letter is pronounced nearly in the same manner as the former. This alteration I have

\* The *œ* is pronounced *eu*, and the *æ*, *ai*.

made in several words which occur very frequently, such as *Obz*, *Weflers*, *Bobus*, &c.

Ye people among whom I have long resided! to you I make an offering of this Work. The most scrupulous impartiality directed my pen, and I have written what my eyes saw, my mind thought, and my heart felt. Of the truth of this assertion you yourselves will judge. There is no human society free from imperfections: by remarking them without asperity, one induces those among whom they are found to correct them.—Besides, I court your esteem; and I should have only merited and met with your contempt, had adulation made me betray the interests of truth.



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## TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

**S**LAVES to passion, and engaged too much in the pursuit of trifling amusements, mankind seldom turn their thoughts to any objects, but such as seem calculated to promote their interest, or increase their pleasures. This being the case, few of them seek to acquire more knowledge than what is necessary in the particular profession which they have embraced; they confine their speculations principally to their own business, and feel little interest in the general fate of empires, or the situation of society in remote regions. The political state of kingdoms, which to men of enlightened understandings will always supply an ample fund of entertainment, and afford scope for useful reflections, holds forth no attractions whatever to the unculti-

vated mind, the resources of which are few in number, and circumscribed within the limits of a narrow sphere. Hence that neglect with which works of the greatest merit are sometimes treated, and the little encouragement often given to the most laborious and important undertakings.

Every person, however, who pretends to speak on public affairs, unless he choose to betray his own ignorance, ought, in some measure, to be acquainted with the political state of the principal nations in Europe: this knowledge, which is indispensably necessary to the statesman and politician, may be of great utility also to the merchant, and prove not altogether uninteresting to the philosopher, and the man of letters. By thoroughly knowing the resources, strength, and riches, of foreign powers, the statesman is enabled to form and execute useful plans, either in the time of peace or of war; the merchant acquires new lights respecting trade, commerce, and



and manufactures; and the man of letters is qualified for communicating his thoughts to the public, on such objects as may concern the happiness, welfare, and prosperity, of his own country. To a British subject, above all, information of this kind is highly important: the extent of our trade and possessions; our connection with other nations; the influence which this country hath in the political balance; and the share which every individual enjoys in the administration, seem to require, that all, and particularly those who hold public stations, while they study the constitution of Great Britain, should at the same time be not entirely ignorant of the situation of their neighbours. It is a misfortune, however, much to be regretted, that works intended to convey instruction on this head, are often deficient, erroneous, and imperfect. Travellers generally reside too short a time in foreign countries, to be able to speak of them with any kind of certainty or precision; many of them  
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are not sufficiently acquainted with the modern languages, to procure that information which is necessary ; and some are so blinded by national prejudice, that they either see things in a wrong light, and through a delusive medium, or wilfully misrepresent them, in order to raise the reputation of their own country higher.

To write well, and with success, on this important subject, travellers must have lived long amongst the people of whose government, laws, constitution, resources, commerce, &c. they mean to give an account; they must have frequented the company of all classes; they must have studied their language: in some measure adopted their manners; familiarized themselves with their humour and temper; divested themselves of prejudice, and embraced every opportunity of acquiring useful information. Most of these advantages, the author of the present work seems to have enjoyed; and his observations, which are both ingenious

nious and candid, will, no doubt, afford amusement and instruction to those who wish to be acquainted with the political state of a nation, to which the eyes of all Europe have been lately turned, and indeed with some degree of admiration.

Sweden, though a poor country, and in many respects barren, has always been considered as of importance in the political balance. Its inhabitants, naturally brave, and enured to hardships, have, on every occasion, distinguished themselves in the wars which they carried on with their neighbours; and some of its sovereigns have rendered their names immortal by the magnanimity and firmness which they displayed when surrounded by dangers, and embarrassed with difficulties. This country, among the eminent characters it has produced, can boast of a Gustavus Adolphus, the great friend and supporter of the Protestants in Germany; a Christina, well known by her learning and singularities; a Charles XII, who not improperly has been styled  
the

the Alexander of the North; and a Lin-næus, the father of botany, and the reformer of natural history. In the present day, a Gustavus III. who seems to inherit all the bravery and enterprising turn of his ancestors, has, with becoming spirit, supported the warlike glory of Sweden, in checking female ambition, always more boundless than that of the other sex; and while he has shewn himself well acquainted with the arts of war, the arrangements he has made respecting the internal administration of the kingdom, sufficiently prove, that he is equally qualified to promote those of peace. A country, therefore, which has given birth to so many illustrious personages; which has always acted a conspicuous part on the public theatre; and whose history is interesting in various respects, deserves, undoubtedly, to be better known. On this account, the translator thought he should do a service to literature, by clothing the following work in an English dress: with what success he has executed

executed his task, he shall leave to those who are competent judges to determine. He must however observe, that in regard to the names of places, the orthography of which has been varied by different authors, he has, for the most part, adhered to the original. The only alterations he has made, are, in words very familiar to an English ear, which for that reason he has written in the same manner as they are usually written in most of our treatises on geography.



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G E N E R A L V I E W  
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S W E D E N.

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CHAP. I.

SITUATION, SOIL, CLIMATE, &c.

**S**WEDEN anciently formed a part of that vast country known to the Romans under the name of Scandinavia. At present it is bounded on the east by Russia, on the west by the Categate and Norway, on the south by the Sound, and on the north by the uncultivated deserts of Russian and Danish Lapland.

The whole kingdom is divided into five general parts, viz. Sweden properly so called, Gothland, Norland, Lapland, and Finland.

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Each of these parts is subdivided into several provinces: Upland, Sudermania, Nerica, Westmania, and Dalecarlia, compose Sweden proper; Gothland contains Ostrogothia, Smoland, Westrogothia, the isles of Gothland and Æland, Wermland, the fief of Bohus, Dalia, Scandia, Halland, and Blekingen; Gestrikeland, Helsingland, Medelpadia, Hiemtland, Herjedalia, Ongermania, and Westrobothnia, constitute Norland.

Swedish Lapland is divided into seven districts, viz. Afela, Hiemtland, Umeo, Pitheo, Luleo, Torneo, and Kemi. The provinces of Finland are, Finland proper, the isle of Æland, Ostrobothnia, Tavasteland, Nyland, Savolax, and that part of the fief of Kymene and Carelia, which Sweden has preserved.

The Swedes by their victorious arms added to the mother country Livonia, Estonia, Ingria, Pomerania, the isles of Æsel and Rugen, Wisnar and its territories, Bremen and Werden; but of all these beautiful possessions, none now are left them but farther Pomerania: even Finland itself has been dismembered. The acquisition of the isle  
of

of St. Bartholomew cannot compensate for these losses, but it may be of great service to them in commerce.

The five parts of which Sweden is essentially composed, and which I have here pointed out, form the largest state in Europe next to Russia. Geographers are not agreed respecting its superficial content. Busching fixes it at 13,500 square German miles, and his account seems to approach nearest to truth.

The kingdom of Sweden is situated between the 28th and the 48th degree of longitude, and the 55th and 70th of northern latitude. The winter here is long, dry, and extremely cold ; the summer short and exceedingly hot. The Swedes experience a rapid change from the former of these seasons to the latter ; spring and autumn are almost unknown to them. During the long nights of winter, the moon, the aurora borealis, and the reflection of the snow, produce a mild and agreeable light. In summer, the sun remains so long above the horizon, that the night consists only of a slight twilight ;

twilight; vegetation then acquires its full vigour, and Nature seems to regain that time which she has lost during the frosty season.

A very remarkable phenomenon may be seen at Torneo in the province of Westrobothnia. This phenomenon is the solstice which was first observed by two Swedish astronomers about the end of the last century. It was observed also in 1736, by several French astronomers, among whom was the celebrated Maupertuis. This philosopher, always inclined to singularity, fell in love under the polar circle, and composed verses in honour of his hyperborean mistress.

Though Sweden is situated under a rigorous climate, it enjoys a much milder temperature than those countries of Asia and America which have the same latitude. For this advantage it is undoubtedly indebted to the waters with which it is washed and intersected, as well as to that high degree of cultivation to which it has attained. Thunder is seldom heard in this country; it produces no venomous reptiles; and earthquakes never spread terror and consternation. Some  
of

of its learned men pretend that traces of extinguished volcanoes are to be seen in it, but the proofs which they bring are far from being convincing. The pure and sharp air which the Swedes breathe renders them vigorous, and preserves them from epidemical diseases. The plague has sometimes made havoc amongst them, but it appears that the infection was conveyed to them from the southern countries. They often attain to a very great age: according to a memoir published by Mr. Wargentin, there were lately found, during a period of nine or ten years, 2036 men and 3540 women above the age of 90; 212 men and 328 women between 100 and 105; 31 men and 36 women between 106 and 110; 22 men and 19 women between 111 and 120; one man aged 122, and one woman of 127.

Linnæus reckons that there are in Sweden 1300 species of plants, 200 of which are used in medicine, and 1400 species of animals. Wolves, foxes, hares, birds of prey, moor fowl, cocks of the wood, together with fresh and salt-water fish, are found here in

great abundance; bears, elks, does, roebucks, fables, beavers, and pole-cats, are more uncommon. It has been remarked that no beeches grow beyond Ostrogothia, and no oaks beyond Upland; the birch grows in all the provinces. The pine and the fir however form the principal part of those forests with which Sweden is covered: they preserve their verdure during the whole winter, and afford a happy relief to the eye, dazzled by the continual splendor of the snow: they present the image of life amidst an almost universal death. The northern provinces produce several kinds of berries which have a very agreeable taste.

With regard to mineral productions, Sweden is very rich. Iron is found in many places near the surface of the earth; it is met with in veins and masses. It is generally contained in a calx of phlogificated iron. The ore of Danmora in Upland is the best. The mine of Fahlun produces copper, well known throughout all Europe. This mine is 180 fathoms in depth, and the mineral is a very hard pyrites. The richest  
silver

silver mine in the country is found at Sala, in the province of Westmania; the mineral consists of cubical wolfram. This mine produces a small quantity of pure silver, some of which has been found also of late years in an iron mine at Wermland, under strata of clay which intersect it. The gold mine discovered about the middle of this century, at *Ædelfors* in Smoland, furnishes only a very small quantity of that metal, which is contained in a calcareous matrix; the miners find sometimes a few pieces of it perfectly pure. This mine is eighty-four fathoms in depth. Besides these, the bowels of the earth abound with lead, marble, alum, limestone, coal, vitriol, curious petrifications, porphyry, amethysts, loadstone, slate, talk, quicksilver, sulphur, mother-of-pearl, and some other productions of the mineral kingdom.

The face of the country in Sweden is diversified with a profusion of eminences, hills, and mountains. The most remarkable of these, the *Sevebergfrygn*, is a chain of mountains, which in *Westrogothia* begins to

rise above the level of the sea; it extends towards the north, between Norway and Nor-land, and separates these two countries by summits covered with eternal snow. According to Mr. Bergman, it stretches as far as the northern part of Asia, and in that quarter of the globe is terminated only by the boundaries of the earth. The mountain of Kinekulle, on the banks of lake Wenner, deserves the attention of every traveller who traverses Sweden; it consists of a number of terraces rising one above another, the highest of which presents a scene equally rich and variegated. The mountain of Omberg, in Smoland, is so high that four provinces, six cities, and fifty churches, may be seen from the top of it. This mountain on one side touches lake Wetter, and in digging at the bottom of it there is found a quarry of lime-stone which extends pretty far under the water. These, as well as all the other mountains of Sweden, are composed of gravel, freestone, calcareous stone, slate, different kinds of petrifications, and granite; the basis of the greater part of them is granite, which is so plentiful, that it is found in large  
separate



separate masses, that often rise to a considerable height. Jetteberg, in Westrogothia, forms a mass of this nature. Taberg, situated in Smoland, is a chain composed entirely of iron ore. There are three chains of the same kind in Swedish Lapland, viz. Kerumavara, Luosavara, and Gellivara.

The soil of the plains and valleys which lie between the hills and mountains is very proper for cultivation. The heat of the sun by being there concentrated, and the springs that fall from the surrounding eminences, render them fertile even when they are not refreshed by showers of rain. The plough is employed also on many of the hills, which by active industry are now converted into fields fit for tillage.

The waters by which Sweden is washed and intersected are very numerous. Here you find a vast arm of the sea, there an extensive lake, and a little farther a broad and rapid river, or a foaming and impetuous torrent. The Baltic, which extends along the kingdom forming two large gulphs, that of Bothnia and that of Finland, seems to be  
the

the grand resource of Sweden. Much has been written on the decrease of the waters of this sea; and about the middle of the present century a very warm dispute arose on the subject among the Swedish literati. Many arguments may be advanced on both sides, but the question is not yet determined. Mr. Bergman, in his *Physical Description of the Earth*, inclines towards the system of its decrease, and his authority has considerable weight. The Northern sea, or the German ocean, washes the provinces of Scandia, Halland, Westrogothia, and Bohus, under the name of the Categate, or Schagerack. The coasts of the districts bordering on these two seas abound with rocks, islands, and promontories, which form a number of gulphs and bays. These passes, formidable to navigators, are in the language of the country called Schæren.

The rivers of Sweden are rapid, and supply abundance of fish; but the numerous rocks and shoals which are found in them render them unfit for the purposes of navigation. The Dal has a very picturesque fall  
near

near Elfcarleby, in Upland, and produces great plenty of salmon. Gothia is celebrated for the cataracts of Trolhætta, which signifies the *forcerers manor*. The river Motala in its course forms a number of beautiful cascades near the city of Norkœping, and like the Dal is very abundant in salmon. Lakes of greater or less extent are found in most of the provinces. The Mælar which waters Upland, Sudermania, and Westmania, is twelve miles \* in length and eight in breadth: it contains a surprising number of islands; there are reckoned to be 1290, several of which are three or four miles in extent, and exhibit a picture of fertility and abundance. The banks of the Mælar are covered with towns, villages, farms, and gentlemen's seats. At Stockholm this beautiful lake discharges itself into the Baltick by two rapid currents, one of which is called the northern, and the other the southern current. The Hielmar washes Sudermania and Nericia; it is seven miles in length,

\*  $5483\frac{1}{2}$  French fathoms make a Swedish mile:  $10\frac{2}{3}$  of these miles make a degree.

and

and three or four in breadth. It contains fewer islands than the Mælar, into which it discharges itself near the city of Torshælla. The Wenner, which divides its waters among three provinces, Westrogothia, Dalia, and Wernland, is fourteen miles in length, and in breadth seven. It is much higher than the northern sea, with which it has a communication by the river Gothia : it increases and decreases regularly, abounds with fish, and contains a number of islands. Of all the lakes of Sweden, the Wetter is the most interesting on account of the different phenomena which it exhibits to the observer. Four provinces, Ostrogothia, Westrogothia, Smoland, and Nericia, are washed by its waters : its greatest length is fifteen miles, and its greatest breadth four. It receives a continual supply from the streams of forty rivulets, and is considerably higher than the Baltic, into which it discharges itself by the Motala. Its waters are so clear, that a piece of money may be distinguished in it at the depth of twenty fathoms : in some places its bottom has never yet been discovered, though

though founded with a very long line. The Wetter often increases and decreases in a very short space of time: this is said to be occasioned by subterranean winds, and upon such occasions it makes a rumbling kind of noise, and a tempest soon after follows. The same winds, when least-expected, break the ice with which the lake is covered in winter, and the sulphureous and bituminous substances deposited at its bottom forcing a passage, produce explosions, the noise of which is very alarming to those who live in the neighbourhood. In Swedish Lapland there are two lakes, Enara and Kemijarvi, which are remarkable on account of their extent. The first is in length twenty miles, and the other thirty.

A Swedish author, who has written on the mineral springs of Sweden, reckons up 360; they abound in every province of the kingdom. That of Loca in Westmania restored to health King Adolphus Frederic: near it is found a kind of clay which employed in cold bathing is said to be extremely salutary. Mr. Bergman has rendered

dered the waters of Medevi in Ostrogothia very celebrated. He preferred them to all the rest in the country, and went thither every summer during the last years of his life. In a memoir, in which he analyses these waters, he says, that they are remarkably light, that they have a ferruginous taste, and that they contain fixed air and liver of sulphur.

The highways in Sweden are broad and well constructed; as they all proceed in a serpentine course, they surprise the traveller with a variety of prospects, which amuse and entertain him on his journey. Picturesque scenes present themselves in abundance, and there are some of them from which the landscape-painter might derive great benefit, and which have a romantic character, that one would in vain look for elsewhere. The eye with pleasure fixes itself on those wild and gloomy rocks suspended over a rich meadow; those thick and shady forests, which every now and then open to shew in their dark retreats fields and flocks; and on those peaceful cottages,  
2 rising

rising from the ridge of sandy hills, on the summits of which the wind agitates a few scattered pines. When you have with great labour climbed to the top of a steep mountain, you discover a liquid plain embosomed in a forest, the trees of which appear reflected under its glassy surface. You traverse this silent and solitary forest, and imagine yourself at a distance from the habitations of men ; but the scene suddenly changes, your horizon becomes extended, and you perceive hamlets, gardens, and fields, where nervous and robust arms are employed in rustic labours.

Sweden contains altogether 105 cities, the principal of which is Stockholm. The Swedish historians pretend that the origin of this capital is as old as the thirteenth century, and that it was founded by Birger, surnamed Jarl, a title equivalent to that of *mayor of the palace*. One part of Stockholm is in Upland, and the other in Sudermania; the boundaries of these two provinces may be seen in one of the streets. Built almost entirely upon seven high islands, washed by  
the

the Baltic and the river Mælar, surrounded by mountains, woods, and gardens, the views exhibited by this city are in turns striking and delightful. Its circumference, taken in its greatest extent, is two miles. The different quarters into which it is divided are the city; the Riddarholm, or Knight's Island; the Heljeandsholm, or Island of the Holy Ghost; the Blasieholm, or Island of St. Blaise; the Skepsholm, or Admiralty Island; the Kongsholm, or King's Island; the Ladugordslund, and the northern and southern suburbs. It contains several public squares: that of the northern suburbs is the most beautiful, and is receiving additional ornaments every day. Among the edifices the most remarkable are the castle, the nobility's hotel, the city hotel, the exchange, the bank, and the theatre of the national opera, on the frontispiece of which is the following inscription:—*Gustavus III. musis patriis*. Opposite to the nobility's hotel stands the pedestrian statue of Gustavus I. Wooden houses formerly very common here, begin now gradually to disappear, and are replaced



replaced by elegant and solid ones, constructed of stone or brick. There are reckoned to be in Stockholm ten parish churches, the architecture of which displays nothing striking. In that of Riddarholm are the tombs of Magnus Ladulos, Charles VIII. Gustavus Adolphus, Charles X. Charles XII. Ulrica Eleonora, Frederic, Adolphus Frederic and Louisa Ulrica: in the same church are deposited the remains of Baner and Torstenson, those two illustrious generals, who, after the death of Gustavus Adolphus, supported the glory of the Swedish arms. The church of Adolphus Frederic, formerly known by the name of St. Olaus, is also worthy of notice. The body of Descartes was deposited in it for some time, until it could be transported to France; and a monument has been lately erected there, to perpetuate the memory of that philosopher. The device on it represents a genius hovering over the globe; with one hand he pulls aside the veil by which it is covered, and in the other holds a flambeau to enlighten it. The port of Stockholm is capacious and safe, but ac-

cess to it is difficult. One side of this vast basin is ornamented with a range of beautiful edifices, above which stands the castle : on the other arises an amphitheatre of mountains, the summits of which are covered with houses and gardens. From the tops of these mountains may be seen the city in its whole extent, the harbour filled with vessels, the masts and cordage of which form a thick forest ; docks that resound with the noise of the saw and the hammer ; islands scattered here and there, some of which have inhabitants and are cultivated, while others are desert and wild ; and a large park that forms an obscure back-ground, and terminates the horizon.

Gottenburg, the second city of Sweden, is situated in Westrogothia, between the Baltic and the Northern sea. It was founded by Charles IX. and soon after destroyed by the Danes ; but it was rebuilt by Gustavus Adolphus, who gave it privileges well calculated to render it flourishing. It is strongly fortified, and is divided into two parts, the upper and lower : the latter is intersected by  
canals.

canals. The trade of Gottenburg is very extensive, and that of Norkœping increases every day. This city, which is the third of the kingdom, is situated in a fertile and delightful plain of Ostrogothia. It contains several elegant buildings, and the Motala adds considerably to the beauty of its environs. Upsal, in the province of Upland, was formerly the residence of the Swedish monarchs: the primate of the kingdom has his seat there at present. The cathedral of this city is the largest church in Sweden; the architecture of it is Gothic, and it contains the bones of St. Eric, the tomb of Gustavus I. and his family, and several other curious objects. Calmar, in Smoland, gave its name to the union of the three northern kingdoms, which was brought about by the genius of Margaret: the hall in which this union was concluded is still to be seen at that place. Fahlun, in Dalecarlia, flourishes, on account of its proximity to one of the richest copper-mines in the country. Carlscrona, in Blekingen, is distinguished by the industry and opulence of its inhabitants;

and its harbour serves as a station for the greater part of the Swedish fleet. Wadstena is celebrated in the annals of the church. St. Bridget lived there a long time, and founded a convent: the relics of that faint are still preserved in one of the churches of the city.

## CHAP. II.

## GENERAL VIEW OF THE SWEDISH HISTORY.

ABOUT half a century before the Christian æra, Gylfe, of the race of Forniother, reigned in Sweden; at the same period Sigge, afterwards surnamed Oden the Divine, fell upon the northern part of Europe, and conquered those vast countries, at the head of a swarm of barbarians whom he had collected between the Tanais and the Boristhenes. The conqueror divided his conquests among his sons. Ynge obtained Sweden, and became the founder of the family of the Ynglingar. Ingiald Ilrode, the last prince of that family, reigned in the seventh century: he had the title of king of Upsal, which was the place of his nativity; and being guided by a barbarous ambition, he in turns employed violence and treachery to exterminate the tributary princes called Fylkiskonungar. Ivar Widfadme, or the

Conqueror, extended the boundaries of the kingdom, and his family continued on the throne for several centuries. Eric Segerfel, or the Victorious, established the Jarls, whose office was equivalent to that of mayor of the palace. Olof Schoetkonung, or the Infant, caused himself to be baptized, and found means to introduce Christianity into the kingdom about the beginning of the eleventh century. The crown, before hereditary, became elective under the race of Stenkil. After the extinction of that race, those of Swerker and Eric the Holy contended for the sceptre, and rendered Sweden a scene of bloodshed and slaughter. The Folkungar began to reign in 1250. Waldemar, the first king of that race, was the son of Birger-Jarl, who distinguished himself by his great wisdom. Ladulos, brother and successor of Waldemar, established salutary laws, restrained the pride of the nobility, and carried with him to the grave the regret of the nation. After his death, the royal family distinguished themselves only by murder and treachery. Magnus, surnamed Smeek,

or the Foolish, elected in 1318, obtained by inheritance the kingdom of Norway, and lost by his simplicity several of the provinces of Sweden. His son Hakan, or Hako, became king of Norway, refused the crown of Sweden; but he afterwards obtained that of Denmark by his marriage with Margaret, daughter of Waldemar. The Swedes, discontented with Magnus Smeek, deposed him, and chose in his room Albert of Mecklenburg; but this foreign prince wielded the sceptre with so much severity, that his subjects, harassed by the yoke of oppression, called in to their assistance Margaret, the widow of Hako. Margaret, who possessed both Denmark and Norway, embraced this opportunity of gratifying her ambition; and having listened to the proposals of the Swedes, declared war against their sovereign, overcame him in battle, and dethroned him. Soon after she proposed to make only one state of the three northern kingdoms, and to unite them under the same sceptre. This union was concluded at Calmar in 1397; and the deputies of the three

kingdoms stipulated, that each of them should be governed according to its own laws. Margaret respected this article, which was intended to prevent any attempts that might be made by arbitrary power, as long as the edifice she had reared was in a tottering condition; but having once established it upon a solid foundation, she was not so scrupulous in adhering to her engagements. She however had the art to conceal her acts of violence under the veil of justice. Eric XIII. whom she chose for her successor, openly pursued a system of oppression; he treated Sweden like a conquered country, and entrusted the administration of the kingdom to Danes, who committed the most horrid barbarities. Incensed at this treatment, the Dalecarlians revolted: Engelbrecht, who was born amongst them, and well known by his eminent qualities, put himself at their head, attacked the tyrant's guards, and avenged the nation. Eric now promised to govern according to the Swedish laws; but as there is no depending on the word of a perfidious despot, Engelbrecht was assassinated.



nated by a rival jealous of his influence, and oppression once more resumed its course. The Dalecarlians again revolted, and engaged the inhabitants of the other provinces to join them. The tyrant therefore appeared in Sweden at the head of his troops; but Heaven declared itself for the good cause, and Eric was obliged to seek shelter in Denmark. The Danes, equally oppressed by his tyranny, did not long afford him an asylum; he was banished from that country, and Christopher of Bavaria ascended the throne. On the death of this prince, which happened in 1448, the Swedes and Norwegians gave the sceptre to Charles Knutson, of an ancient and illustrious family, and allied to that of the old Swedish kings: but the Danes decreed it to Christian I. of the family of Oldenburg. The archbishop of Upsal, a powerful and ambitious prelate, by forming intrigues against Charles, put Sweden into the hands of Christian, who, not being able to govern a people proud of their privileges, was soon stripped of his authority. By this revolution Charles again obtained the diadem;

dem ; but being dethroned a second time, he was re-established in 1461, and reigned in peace till his death, which happened in 1470.

Steen Sture the elder, nephew to Charles, now assumed the reins of government under the title of regent : he indeed deserved that of king ; but he would have perhaps shewn himself less worthy, had he enjoyed it. Christian, who pretended that the union of Calmar still subsisted, though the Swedes asserted the contrary, treated Sture as a rebel, and made repeated efforts to subdue Sweden : but the regent found means to support his authority ; and his firmness, wisdom, and zeal for the public good, were the bulwarks of his power. Swante Sture, a nephew worthy of such an uncle, mounted the throne after him : this prince rendered the nation happy, and designed for his successor his favourite son, Steen Sture the younger.

Christian II. or Christiern the Nero of the North, having mounted the throne of Denmark, renewed the pretensions of his predecessors ; but he met only with a refusal.

Offended

Offended by this obstinate resistance, he marched an army into Sweden, and gave his rival battle. The regent perished in the field, and the tyrant was victorious. Christiern therefore, seconded by Gustavus Trolle, archbishop of Upsal, accomplished his end, and was crowned king in 1519. He soon signalized his power by horrid cruelties, which incensed the whole nation against him; and the massacre which he caused to be made at Stockholm, of the most illustrious personages in the kingdom, filled the minds of the Swedes with rage and indignation.

Gustavus Ericson Vasa, a fugitive in his own country, formed a design of delivering it, and for this purpose repaired to Dalecarlia. The inhabitants of that province being distinguished for their courage and patriotism, could not endure the yoke of oppression. Gustavus therefore traced out a picture of the misfortunes of Sweden, with all that eloquence which he inherited from nature. Combatants, guided by valour, soon flocked to his standard; and having led them against the oppressors of his country, he  
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made himself master of Stockholm, triumphed over the Danes, and expelled them from every part of the kingdom. For this service the states appointed him regent in 1521, and king in 1523. The union of Calmar was dissolved for ever, and Sweden recovered its independence. The new monarch preserved the senate and the four orders, whom he assembled on important occasions. He distinguished his reign by an ardent and enlightened zeal for the prosperity of the state. Agriculture and commerce began to flourish, a navy was formed, and public schools were opened in the different provinces; while the introduction of Lutheranism repressed the power of the clergy, and increased the influence of the crown. Interest and ambition, unable to gratify their private views on account of the firmness and vigilance of the king, excited new revolts; but Gustavus quelled them, and caused the sceptre to be declared hereditary in his family in 1544. He died in 1560, and left behind him the reputation of a great man.

Gustavus was succeeded by his youngest son,

son, Eric XIV. who did not possess the same qualities as his father. This monarch became a prey to a brutal kind of melancholy, which occasioned his ruin. His brother John easily supplanted a prince who had embued his hands in the blood of his subjects, and who was considered as the scourge of the kingdom. Eric therefore was deposed, and being thrown into prison, was there poisoned by the order of John. Such are the dreadful excesses to which princes may be hurried by politics and ambition. John had married Catherine Jagellon, whom he loved and consulted. This princess had great influence in the council; and being a zealous supporter of the Catholic religion, which she professed, she prevailed upon her husband to render Sweden once more dependent on the holy see. Lutheranism however had taken too deep root; and the efforts which the king made to destroy it, tended only to establish it the more. John died in 1572, very little regretted, because he was unworthy of the esteem of his subjects. His son Sigismund, already king of Poland,

Poland, ought to have succeeded him ; but he consulted the Polish monks too much, and followed their advice too scrupulously : the Swedes dreaded the civil and religious yoke, which Poland was about to impose on them, and began to manifest their fear. Charles duke of Sudermania, the youngest of Gustavus's sons, taking advantage of the disposition in which the people then were, caused himself to be elected regent of the kingdom. Sigismund undertook to conquer Sweden ; but the duke defeated his army, and afterwards mounted the throne. The reign of this prince was severe and often cruel. Charles was harsh, sanguinary and violent : he died during a paroxysm of passion.

We however overlook the vices of Charles IX. when we reflect that he gave Gustavus Adolphus to Sweden, to Europe, and to posterity. Great men arise in all countries, and at all times. Gustavus II. was as great in peace as in war : he succeeded his father in 1611, and shewed himself a model for heroes and kings. At this period

riod Sweden was engaged in war with Denmark, Russia and Poland. A peace was concluded with the two first of these powers, and a truce with the latter; but immediately after, glory and religion conducted Gustavus Adolphus to Germany. His army, though not numerous, was brave, inured to war, well disciplined, and full of confidence in their chief. Tilly lost his laurels at the battle of Leipzig, which Gustavus gained in 1631; and Wallenstein was defeated at Lutzem the year following: but the king perished in this bloody contest by the hand of a traitor. The protestants in Germany shed tears for their protector, while the *Te Deum* was chanted at Rome.

Christina, the daughter of Gustavus and Mary Eleonora of Brandenburg, was very young at the time of her father's death. Oxenstierna, who then directed the affairs of Germany, was employed in negotiation, while Weymar, Baner, Horn, Torstenson, and Wrangel were gaining victories. The peace of Brämsebro was concluded in 1645; that of Westphalia in 1648; and both these  
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added to the glory, the territories, and the political influence of Sweden.

When Christina came of age, she shewed herself worthy of the throne which she occupied, as long as the wise Oxenstierna was her minister and confidant; but when she neglected the counsel of that respectable veteran, she no longer met with the esteem and affection of her subjects. The rewards due to merit were lavished upon favourites, and the public treasury was exhausted by repeated largesses. Universal murmurs were on this account excited; and Christina, fatigued with the cares of government, formed a resolution of abdicating the throne. The pleasure of living under a mild and favourable sky, in the bosom of the arts, and surrounded by men of letters, appeared to her preferable to the glory of rendering a brave and illustrious nation happy. This princess, whose character displays more singularity than greatness, and whom posterity often mention, but without respect, quitted her throne, her country, and her religion, in 1654.

Charles



Charles Gustavus, or Charles X. son of John Casimir, of the Palatine family of Deux Ponts, and of Catherine, daughter of Charles IX. was appointed by Christina to succeed her, and the states confirmed this choice. The reign of that monarch was short, but glorious. Casimir, king of Poland, having disputed his right to the crown of Sweden, Charles marched an army against him, fought a battle near Warsaw, which continued three days, and saw the haughty Poles tremble before him. The king of Denmark in the mean time having declared war against Sweden, the conqueror was obliged to evacuate Poland and to oppose a new enemy. He led his small army across the Lesser Belt on the ice, took possession of the greater part of Denmark, and in 1658 obtained the peace of Roschild, by which several provinces were ceded to Sweden. Alarmed at such signal success, all the northern powers took up arms against this kingdom, and the emperor, Russia, and the elector of Brandenburg joined its enemies. Charles however laid siege to Copenhagen ;

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but being repulsed, death soon after put an end to his career. He died suddenly in 1660 at Gottenburg, where he wished to assemble the states.

His son Charles XI. being only five years of age, it was found necessary to choose a council of regency: that which Charles Gustavus had established by his will, was not confirmed by the states, who appointed Edwig Eleonora, and the five great officers of the crown. The peace of Oliva, concluded in 1660, immediately after the death of Charles X. restored tranquillity to the north. In 1668, Sweden adhered to the alliance formed by England and Holland to oppose the ambitious projects of Louis XIV. Charles XI. when he assumed the reins of government by himself, listened to the partisans of France, entered into the views of that court, and sent an army into Germany in the year 1674. The grand elector beat the Swedes at Fehrbellin, and the Danes made an irruption into Scandinavia, but were repulsed. In 1679, Charles concluded a peace, and at the same time resolved to renounce

renounce the close alliance which had subsisted between France and Sweden, almost without interruption from the time of Gustavus Adolphus. Under this prince the constitution experienced a revolution very fatal to liberty. Charles caused himself to be declared sovereign, without any restriction. Posterity ought to pardon him for this usurpation, on account of the attention which he paid, during his whole reign, to the internal administration of the kingdom. In every thing he did, he consulted the prosperity of the state. We cannot blame his conduct, but in reducing the riches of the crown, which were in the hands of the nobility. This enterprize was executed with a severity that approached sometimes to injustice. Charles was mediator at the peace of Ryswick in 1697, in which year he died.

Charles XII. son of Charles XI. and Ulrica Eleonora of Denmark, was declared major by the states, and assumed the reins of government. The duke of Holstein, who had married his eldest sister Edwig Sophia, being attacked by Denmark, Charles marched

to his assistance, struck a terror into the Danes, and concluded, in 1700, the peace of Travendal. More formidable enemies, Augustus II. and Peter I. czar of Russia, threatened Sweden. Charles therefore entered Livonia, and with eight thousand Swedes attacked and defeated eighty thousand Russians near Narva, on the 20th of November, 1700. From Livonia he hastened to Poland, where he gained several victories, dethroned Augustus, and caused Stanislaus Letzinski to be elected in his stead. Soon after he marched into Saxony, made the dethroned king sign the peace of Altranstad, and obtained for the protestants of Silesia, the free exercise of their religion. The Swedish hero repaired next to Poland, with a design of depriving Peter I. of his crown; but the fortune of Charles began to change. Levenhaupt, who ought to have joined him, being annoyed by the Russians, arrived with a body of only seven thousand men; and Mazeppa, chief of the Cossacks, was not able to furnish that assistance which was expected from him. Charles however, full of his

intended project, continued his march, and on the 27th of June, 1709, fought the battle of Pultawa. Repulsed and wounded, he passed the Dnieper, and sought for an asylum in the territories of the Turks. His enemies soon took advantage of his misfortunes. Augustus recovered Poland; Peter seized upon Livonia, Estonia, Ingria, and a part of Finland; and the king of Denmark, Frederic IV. landed an army in Scandinavia. To resist so many enemies was difficult. The Swedes, however, made efforts, and the danger in which they beheld their country inspired them with courage. Count de Stenback, having in haste collected a body of peasants, opposed them to the Danes, who were beat at Helfinburg in 1710. Charles in the mean time was carrying on an unsuccessful negociation at the Porte. Being solicited to quit the Turkish dominions, he obstinately refused; maintained a siege against an army sent to attack him; was taken prisoner, and conducted by force to Demotica. At length, finding that it was impossible for him to accomplish his end, he set out with

one of his generals, and arrived at the gates of Stralfund, so harassed by fatigue, that his subjects did not know him.

Two other powers, England and Prussia, having declared against Sweden, George I. and Frederic William I. united themselves with the enemies of Charles. This monarch, however, always firm and undaunted, shut himself up in the city of Stralfund, which he defended for some time. Being at length forced to abandon it, he went on board a small bark, and set out for Sweden; but, instead of going to Stockholm, he undertook an expedition to Norway, and afterwards returned to Scandinavia. A second expedition into Norway became fatal to him; he laid siege to Frederickshall, and going to reconnoitre one of the trenches, was killed by a musket bullet on the 30th of November, 1718. Such was the end of this extraordinary man, whose fame has been celebrated throughout all the world. His valour was more than human; he was sober, temperate, and chaste; what he promised he always performed; and injustice never found  
any

any favour before him : but owing to his obstinacy and want of prudence, his exploits were beneficial to his enemies, and fatal to Sweden. When the states assembled, they decreed the crown to Ulrica Eleonora, his youngest sister, on condition that she renounced sovereignty. The duke of Holstein, a young prince endowed with many engaging qualities, and who married Charles' eldest sister, had a legal right to the throne, and found many partisans ; but the efforts which they made in his favour were not attended with success. Baron Goertz, who was known to be attached to him, and who was dreaded on account of his active and enterprising genius, was arrested, and condemned to lose his head. The Swedes, instead of continuing the negociations which that minister had begun with Russia, broke them off, and chose rather to address themselves to England, Prussia, and Denmark. Peace was concluded with these three powers, but on very disadvantageous terms. Sweden lost Bremen, Werden, part of Pomerania, and a right to the duties of the Sound ; and,

by way of indemnification, received some millions of crowns. In the mean time the diet having assembled at Stockholm, on the 24th of January, 1720, Ulrica Eleonora proposed to abdicate the throne, and resign it to Frederic of Hesse Cassel, her husband, who indeed became king, by renouncing some more of the royal prerogatives. Russia, always implacable, was still laying waste the coasts of the kingdom; it was therefore found necessary to think seriously of bringing about a peace with that formidable enemy; and this was at last accomplished, in 1721, on ceding Livonia, Estonia, Ingria, part of Carrelia and Finland. The foundations of Peterburgh were already laid; and Peter was now enabled, without interruption, to complete the vast edifice of that power, which was the grand object of his wishes and labours.

Delivered from their enemies, the Swedes applied their thoughts to the internal administration of their country, and by the arts of peace endeavoured to repair those misfortunes which had been brought upon them  
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by war. Agriculture was encouraged, industry obtained rewards, and commerce assumed a new vigour; but the same scourge which had been so fatal to this nation, again fell upon it. The alliance entered into with France in 1738, inveterate national hatred, and several other causes of discontent, produced a fresh rupture with Russia. War was resolved upon in the diet of 1741, and an army was sent into Finland: but Charles XII. and his generals were no more. The Russians whom they had to combat were not the same as those whom they had so easily conquered at Narva: besides, the state was divided by domestic broils, which retarded the operations of the war. The command of the army was given to Count Charles Emilius de Levenhaupt; but before he could assume it, General Wrangel had lost the battle of Wilmanstrad. A sudden revolution having raised Elizabeth to the throne of Russia, the Swedes declared in favour of that princess, and engaged to support her in retaining the sceptre. The empress testified her gratitude for this kindness by consent-

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ing to a truce ; but hostilities were again soon renewed, and the Swedish army was forced to capitulate. The states upon this assembled : Levenhaupt and Buddenbroek, accused of having caused the bad success of the war, were condemned to death, and publicly beheaded. Adolphus Frederic, of the family of Holstein Gottorp, and descended by the female line from the family of Vasa, was declared successor to the throne. This choice, approved by Russia, tended very much to bring about a peace, which was concluded at Obo in 1743. Sweden ceded part of Finland, and Russia engaged to support the presumptive heir to the crown, in opposition to Denmark, which had formed a design of renewing the union of Calmar. The Dalecarlians, attached to the prince of Denmark, did not suffer themselves to be checked by the influence of Russia ; they marched to Stockholm, and committed several excesses in the capital, but were at length repelled by force.

The end of Frederic's reign was distinguished by several establishments, well calculated

culated to make the arts flourish. This prince died in 1751, after having long languished in a dismal state of imbecility, arising from a general weakness of the organs. He displayed considerable talents, especially for political intrigue. His successor, Adolphus Frederic, mounted the throne with Louisa Ulrica of Prussia. At his coronation the diet foretold those troubles which broke out at that of 1756. The court having many partisans, undertook to revenge the attempts made to lessen its power; the project was discovered, and those who conducted it lost their lives for the zeal which they had shewn towards the king. Scarcely was this storm allayed when there arose another. By a singular revolution in the political system, the flames of a general war had been just kindled in Europe; and France, Austria, and Russia appeared ranged on the one side, and Prussia and England on the other. France proposed to Sweden to take a share in this war; and the party of the hats, as powerful in the senate as the diet, made no difficulty of agreeing. Sweden declared  
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by her minister at Ratisbon, that having guaranteed the peace of Westphalia, she found herself obliged to march a body of troops into Germany, for the purpose of restoring public tranquillity. The Swedish army crossed the sea, and joined those numerous enemies who wished to crush the great Frederic. Such was the course of events, that, in 1762, the Prussian monarch might have profited by those advantages which he knew how to procure, in order to fall upon the Swedes with a part of his forces. The latter were sensible of the necessity of a peace, and sought for it; the queen protected the interests of the kingdom, and the treaty was signed at Ham-burgh on the 22d of May, 1762.

Domestic dissensions began however to be again revived: the hats and caps proceeded to great violence, and a fatal incoherence was introduced into the administration. These political convulsions obliged the king to resign his authority, which he did on the 16th of December, 1768. The interregnum continued till the 21st of the same month, when

when Adolphus Frederic resumed the reins of government, after having obtained, that a diet extraordinary should be convoked without delay. A happy change was expected, but every attempt was fruitless; the troubles continued, and the king died suddenly on the 12th of February, 1771. A strong attachment to virtue, upright and pure intentions, a goodness of heart displayed in a countenance always pleasant, formed the principal features in the character of this prince. He was averse to those sudden and decisive strokes, which are too often attended with unhappy consequences: the supporters of faction knew this well, and consequently turned it to their advantage. His court was the asylum of all those domestic virtues upon which the happiness of families depends, but which the great seldom have the pleasure of being acquainted with. Magnificence there had not that splendour which offends and disgusts, and purity of manners was respected. The children of Adolphus Frederic and Louisa Ulrica, were Gustavus III. Charles duke of Suder-

Sudermania, Frederic Adolphus duke of Ostrogothia, and Sophia Albertina abbess of Quedlinburg.

Gustavus III. was at Paris when his father died; but having immediately returned to Stockholm, where the states were assembled, anarchy ceased on the 19th of August, 1772, by a revolution which enlarged the power of the sovereign. Denmark appearing to have hostile intentions, the king marched a body of Swedish troops towards the frontiers of Norway. Matters however did not proceed to an open rupture, and peace was preserved; but it has lately given place to all the horrors of war. In 1768, Gustavus III. married Sophia Magdalena, princess of Denmark. Gustavus Adolphus, their son, is presumptive heir to the crown.

Louisa Ulrica, who will be mentioned with esteem by posterity, died in 1782. This princess had one of those ardent and lively souls which are susceptible of glory, which by their activity shun repose, and which resemble the devouring flames, that every thing nourishes, and which nothing can extinguish.

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She therefore took a part in those troubles by which the reign of her husband was agitated; and her efforts would have been oftener crowned with success, had not the frankness and noble pride of her character, kept her at too great a distance from that policy which finds security in continual mistrust, and advantage in those different forms which it knows how to assume. Louisa Ulrica was a warm protector of the arts and sciences, and she contributed greatly to their progress, by honouring and esteeming those who cultivated them.

## C H A P. III.

NAME, ARMS, KING'S TITLES, CORONA-  
TION, COURT, ROYAL FAMILY,  
RESIDENCE, SEATS.

THE Swedes call their country Swe-  
rige, or Swea-riket, of which Swe-  
rige is a Danish abbreviation, introduced  
during the union of Calmar. Before the  
arrival of Oden, the country was called Jo-  
thaland, and the inhabitants Jothar, which  
have given rise to the names of Gothland  
and Goths. Sweden formerly had several  
other names, which have furnished a vast  
field for the conjectures of the learned. Such  
are those of Mannahem, Skythiod, Thuloe,  
Attland, Scandia, Scandinavia, Baltia, Getia.  
Mannahem is an expressive denomination  
which signifies *the habitation of men*.

The arms of Sweden are a shield divided  
into four compartments, and having a small  
shield over it. The first and second com-  
partments



partments contain three rivers, which a lion with a golden crown is endeavouring to pass; the other two compartments contain two gold crowns, which belong properly to Sweden: the lion belongs to the kingdom of Gothland. These three crowns have afforded much exercise to the ingenuity of the Swedish antiquaries, who have collected a great number of authorities to prove, that they were peculiar to Sweden. But the Danes are of a contrary opinion: according to them, they belong equally to Denmark. To decide this question, recourse was even had to arms; but neither historical arguments nor the sword being sufficient to resolve the problem, it was agreed that Denmark should have the right of bearing three crowns in its shield, on condition, however, that it should not thence form any pretensions to the prejudice of Sweden.

The king's titles are, Gustavus III. by the grace of God king of Sweden, the Goths and the Vandals; grand duke of Finland; hereditary lord of Norway; duke of Sles-

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wick,

wick, Holstein, Stormarn, and Ditmarfen; earl of Oldenburgh and Delmenhorst. When Christian IV. carried the flames of war into Sweden, he alledged, among other reasons, for his conduct, that Charles IX. had assumed the title of king of Lapland. It is pretended, that the court of Denmark, among the causes of its complaint against Charles XII. mentioned the title of king of Scandinavia, *Rex Scandinaviæ*, which had been given, by a certain poet, to that prince. If this anecdote be true, it may serve as a lesson to poets, and teach them to be sparing of that incense which they lavish upon the great ones of the earth.

In the early periods of the Swedish monarchy, the kings of Sweden were never crowned. The prince destined to reign over the nation placed himself at the foot of his predecessor's throne, gave some proofs of his strength or valour, and drank from a horn or skull. After this ceremony he ascended the throne, and received the homage of those around him. The custom of crowning its kings was introduced in Sweden by  
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the Roman pontiffs. This ceremony was calculated to strengthen their power ; for as the prince received the crown from the hands of the bishop, he seemed to acknowledge that he held it from the church. Eric Knutson, who began his reign in 1210, was the first king who assumed the crown in this manner. Upsal long enjoyed the privilege of being the only city in which the monarch could be crowned ; but in the reign of Charles IX. it was declared, that a coronation might take place any where else, should circumstances require it. After the ceremony, the king must visit, in succession, all the provinces of his vast kingdom. This custom, called *Aeriks-gata*, is a valuable relique of those ages, when princes had a more direct intercourse with their subjects, and when the etiquette of courts and the assiduity of courtiers did not condemn them to live amidst the languor of a palace. The ceremony of the coronation is performed by the archbishop of Upsal.

The marshal of the kingdom is the first person at court, and next to him is the grand

chamberlain. Besides these, there are six first gentlemen of the bed-chamber; a grand huntsman; two marshals; a superintendant of buildings; twenty gentlemen in ordinary; four first pages of the bed-chamber, having the title also of gentlemen in ordinary; two intendants of buildings; a master and under-master of ceremonies; a grand almoner, and four almoners in ordinary; two first physicians, and four physicians in ordinary; two secretaries of orders; two librarians, a reader, &c. In 1772, the present king renewed the office of equerry of the kingdom, who has under him a grand equerry, a first equerry, an equerry in ordinary, and three under equeries. The galleys and dockyards are committed to the inspection of a vice-admiral. The king's court has a particular tribunal, in which the marshal of the kingdom is president: it has also a particular chancery.

The queen has a grand master, a grand governess, a governess, six maids of honour, a grand chamberlain, several ordinary chamberlains, a grand equerry, an equerry in ordinary

dinary, &c. The prince royal has a governor, four pages, a preceptor, &c. The court of the duke of Sudermania is composed of a first equerry, two under equeries, a chamberlain, several gentlemen in waiting, an almoner, a secretary of orders, &c. The court of the duchess is composed of a governess, three maids of honour, a first equerry, an under equerry, a chamberlain, several gentlemen in waiting, &c. The court of the duke of Ostrogothia is the same as that of the duke of Sudermania. The princess abbess of Queidlinburg has a governess, an attendant, two maids of honour, a first equerry, an under equerry, two chamberlains, several gentlemen in waiting, a secretary of orders, &c.

The king, the queen, the prince royal, the duke and duchess of Sudermania, the duke of Ostrogothia, and the princess sister to the king, compose at present the whole royal family.

The city of Sigtuna, in the remotest ages, was the residence of the kings of Sweden. Upsal afterwards became the seat of govern-

ment ; but at present it is Stockholm. The castle of that capital, as ancient as the city, was almost entirely consumed by a fire in 1697, under the reign of Charles XI. ; and during the time necessary for rebuilding it, the court occupied the hotel belonging to the family of Wrangel. It is built after the plan of Count Nicodemus de Tessin, superintendant of buildings, and consists of a large square with two wings, which being placed upon an eminence, commands a view of the whole city. The interior part of it displays great elegance and taste. The ceiling of the grand gallery, which escaped the ravage of the flames, particularly attracts the notice of connoisseurs : it was painted by Ehrenstrål, an excellent master, whom Charles XI. honoured with his protection. The hall of the states is extensive and grand ; and the chapel unites elegance to majesty. In the collection of paintings here, there are some very curious and scarce. Antiques of great value are dispersed throughout the different apartments. One, greatly admired, is an Endymion ; it is a real masterpiece, and was  
found

found some time ago in the villa Adriana. The castle of Stockholm is extensive enough to lodge the whole royal family, except the abbess of Queidlinburg, who has a palace of her own in the square of the northern suburbs.

The king has several other palaces situated at different distances from the capital. An alley, which presents itself on the left when you have passed Queen's-street and the Observatory, conducts you to Carlberg, situated on the banks of the Mælar. The buildings here have been much neglected, and bear evident marks of the ravages of time; but the garden is kept in good order. It has been laid out with much art, directed by good taste. They have formed in concert dark alleys, where tender melancholy might delight to dwell; shady arbours, which preserve a continual coolness; delightful groves; beautiful grass-plats; a large orangery, and a canal which reflects the image of those majestic trees that grow on its banks. On one side of the garden there is a vast and gloomy forest; and on the other a park,

which displays that engaging simplicity so much admired by those who are fond of nature. Strangers generally stop some time in this park to enjoy its beauties, and to take a view of a country-seat built in it by order of queen Christina. It is constructed of wood, and is daily falling to pieces under the hand of time: but its ruins have still attractions; they call back to our remembrance very pleasing and interesting scenes. In this place, as tradition says, the queen assembled all the literati who lived at her court. Here the traveller, resting against an aged pine, indulges in the phantoms of his imagination; here he beholds Christina and her learned courtiers; here he sees Descartes walking by himself, and seeking for an asylum friendly to meditation; Saumaise reciting to the neighbouring echoes Greek and Latin verses which they repeat; Bochart observing silence, and regretting his cabinet; Huet preparing an idyll in the language of Latium; Meibom causing a Greek dance to be performed; and Bourdelot ridiculing that learning which he did not possess, and captivating



tivating Christina by the fallies of his lively wit, keener than that of his rivals, though respectable by their erudition and their philosophical knowledge.

At the entrance of a wood, which almost touches the capital on the northern side, is the king's palace of Haga. Nature has done a great deal for the embellishment of this rural retreat, and art has done as much by taking for models the English gardens so much boasted of, and which all Europe at present imitate. The king of Sweden is remarkably fond of Haga; and he did not even disdain to assume its name during his last travels. At that memorable period of his life, when he was forming the plan of the revolution of 1772, he often retired hither to deliberate on what measures he ought to pursue. Close to his apartments was a very plain habitation occupied by count de Vergennes.

Continuing your route through the wood, you arrive at Ulricfsdal, which stands in a fine situation, and is built in the ancient taste. The garden is by far too regular:  
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the best thing in it is a beautiful orangery which perfumes the surrounding air, and by an agreeable illusion makes you forget the proximity of the polar circle. Ulricfsdal is surrounded with woods, fields and meadows: an arm of the Baltic, close to which it is situated, adds greatly to its beauty.

Drottningholm, where the court generally passes the summer, rises majestically in the middle of the Mælar, at the distance of a mile from Stockholm. It was built after the plan of Count Nicodemus de Tessin. Among the objects contained in this vast edifice, the most curious are, a cabinet of natural history, another of medals, a well-chosen library, and a collection of paintings. These are so many monuments of the zeal shewn by Louisa Ulrica for the advancement of the arts and the sciences. It was this princess also who gave the first idea of the Chinese quarter, seen at a little distance from the palace, the buildings and walks of which display all the charms of enchantment. The garden is increasing and acquiring new embellishments every day, on account of the  
care

care bestowed on it by the king, who wishes to make it replete with those poetical beauties to which the lovers of gardens have so long been strangers. Much might be done in this way in Sweden. Nature has supplied it with abundance of eminences, rocks, rivers, streams, and woods; but the climate raises up many obstacles, and often fetters the genius of the artist.

Drottningholm makes part of the isle of Lofoen; a little farther in the island, and close to the parish church, there is a monument which deserves to be known. Among the learned men who appeared at the court of Louisa Ulrica, that enlightened queen distinguished Klingenskierna, a profound philosopher, whose discoveries enlarged the boundaries of science, and who in 1756 succeeded Dalin as tutor to the prince royal, now on the throne of Sweden. When he died, the queen honoured him with her regret, and upon this occasion displayed in their full extent all those sentiments with which the labours of his genius had inspired her. She herself took the charge of his fu-

neral; his body was transported from Stockholm to the isle of Lofoen, and exposed in the church close to the coffin of Dalin; a discourse suitable to the occasion was then delivered, and the corpse was afterwards interred. The two coffins were deposited in the same grave, which has been since ornamented with a marble pyramid, having on one side the epitaph of Dalin, and on the other that of Klingenshierna. This ceremony was honoured with the presence of the whole royal family, and of all the senators; while Louisa Ulrica and Gustavus scattered flowers over the common tomb of these two men, worthy of the respect of their cotemporaries and of posterity.

Adolphus Frederic and Louisa Ulrica established at Drottningholm several manufactories, which they superintended themselves; but during the troubles that afterwards arose they began to decline. The queen also caused a number of mulberry-trees to be planted around the palace, and undertook to breed silk-worms. These insects, accustomed to the genial influence of  
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the eastern sun, were astonished to live and prosper in the neighbourhood of the pole : but this branch of commerce could here be only an object of curiosity ; too many obstacles were to be surmounted before it could be really and generally useful.

From the isle of Lofoen you are transported in a ferry-boat to that of Swartsjoe, which occupies, in the middle of the Mælar, a space of about four miles. This is one of the most considerable of the domains of the crown ; the soil of it is extremely fertile, and it produces abundance of grass. The castle is a very plain building, from the main body of which you enter the garden, where the ear is agreeably surpris'd with the song of the nightingale, a bird highly esteemed, but very uncommon in the north. In this garden there is a tree, under which it is pretended that Gustavus Adolphus formed with Oxenstierna a plan for carrying on the German war. After the death of Adolphus Frederic the queen dowager generally spent the summer at Swartsjoe, where she amused herself, in turns, with reading, embroidery,

embroidery, walking, and hunting. The garden every year received additional embellishments under the direction of her genius: she was fond of it and walked in it regularly every day. She often paid a visit also to the neighbouring parts of the country, to see man in his innocence, and nature in all its simplicity. She was above all delighted with the cottage of an old man of eighty years of age, interesting on account of his memory, and respectable by his virtues. Seated close by him under a large oak, which grew near his habitation, she would often interrogate him respecting his past life, his family, and the different events he had seen; and the good patriarch would reply to all her questions, with that candour and natural simplicity which leave the most agreeable and lasting impressions in feeling minds. In the bosom of this tranquil kind of life Louisa Ulrica forgot the pomp of grandeur, and those storms which had long disturbed the happiness of her days.

At the distance of seven miles from Stockholm, in the province of Sudermania, is the  
castle

castle of Gripsholm, one of the most ancient in the country, and built in the Gothic style of architecture. It stands on the banks of the Mælar, and the woods, fields, and mountains which surround it, render its situation very picturesque. The lands belonging to it are extensive, and produce a considerable revenue. On entering the castle, you first observe two large cannons, which were taken from the Russians, and which serve as an ornament to the court. The next objects worthy of notice are, the solidity of the building, and the thickness of the walls. A siege might be withstood here in case of necessity for a considerable time. In those ages, when barbarity of manners did not permit citizens to live in safety under the protection of the laws, it was found necessary to build in this manner; and it evidently appears; that the ancestors of Gustavus I. who constructed Gripsholm, intended it as a place of shelter from those formidable plunderers who infested the country. The interior part of the castle presents a great number of curious objects. In one large  
hall

hall are collected the portraits of all the princes who were contemporary with Gustavus I.; another less extensive, but more elegant, contains the pictures of those kings who were reigning in Europe in 1773. What besides these are most worthy of notice are, the theatre lately finished, and several apartments furnished with great taste. The present king caused the castle of Gripsholm to be repaired and ornamented; but two dark dungeons have been preserved in their ancient condition. In one of these Eric XIV. kept his brother John and Catherine Jagellon prisoners: this couple remained there several years, and their son Sigismund, afterwards king of Poland, was born during their confinement. In the other dungeon, still more dismal and gloomy, Eric experienced the vengeance of a brother whose friendship he ought to have cultivated. On his deliverance from prison, John took advantage of the disposition which the Swedes manifested in his favour; dethroned Eric, and treated him with the most barbarous severity. The dethroned prince was  
dragged



dragged from dungeon to dungeon ; he was put into the most hideous and filthy part of the castle of Gripsholm, where he never beheld the light of the day, and no one was permitted to see him. Sometimes he suffered from hunger, at others from thirst , and his persecutor carried his barbarity so far, as to refuse him the assistance of religion. The prints of his feet remain still visible on the floor of his prison.

Strömsholm, in Westmania, ten miles from the capital, is remarkable for its situation. The waters of the Mælar, the thick woods, the rich fields, and the beautiful meads that surround this castle, form altogether a most delightful and enchanting landscape. The castle of Ekolfund has been sold to an English gentleman established at Stockholm, and that of Frederickshof is converted into an arsenal. The park belonging to the latter contains one of the most beautiful walks to be found in the environs of Stockholm. Here the friend of nature is delighted with those shady retreats which have no other ornaments than some ancient rock or

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twisted

twisted trunks, and with those winding paths which conduct sometimes to verdant grass-plats, or the noisy shore of the sea ; while roebucks, in turns stopping and retreating, and flocks feeding in silence, bring to remembrance that tranquillity and contentment which men every where search for, but which they so rarely find.

## CHAP. IV.

## CONNECTION WITH FOREIGN POWERS.

**T**HOUGH Sweden is situated at the extremity of the north, and though its natural resources are very limited, it has long acted a conspicuous part on the political theatre. Become celebrated by those victories which, for near a century, signalized its arms, its alliance was courted; it had a considerable share in the grand commotions of Europe, and its name was every where respected. Even since its decline, and the misfortunes into which it was plunged by the ambition of Charles XII. it has not been altogether forgotten. The remembrance of its ancient splendor, the interest arising from its government, and the revolutions it has experienced, together with the importance naturally attached to maintaining a balance of power in the north, have rendered it worthy the attention of other nations.

*Treaties with the Emperor and the Empire.*

It is well known from history, what influence the Swedes had in Germany during the war of thirty years. This bloody war being terminated in 1648, Sweden obtained five millions of German crowns, the archbishopric of Bremen, and the bishopric of Werden, both secularised in its favour, all farther Pomerania, the isle of Rugen in the Baltic, and the city of Wismar in Mecklenburg.

When Louis XIV. and his enemies concluded the peace of Nimeguen, Sweden was included by a particular convention, between it and the emperor, signed February 5, 1679: the emperor promised to protect the duke of Holstein, and to support him in his endeavours to obtain advantageous terms from Denmark, and the elector of Brandenburg.

Charles XII. gained signal victories in Poland, and after having placed Stanislaus on the throne of that kingdom, carried his victorious

victorious arms into Saxony. In the middle of these triumphs, he concluded the treaty of Altranstad, in 1707. By this treaty, Augustus renounced the crown of Poland; and the emperor engaged, never to demand of the king of Sweden any of those subsidies which he ought to have furnished during the war of succession; to treat the protestants of Silesia with mildness, and to favour the duke of Holstein.

*Treaties with France.*

The political connection between Sweden and France is as old as the reign of Gustavus Vasa. Francis I. thought it necessary to court the alliance of this country against Charles V. and a treaty was accordingly concluded; but it was not attended with any consequences of importance. Ferdinand II. taking advantage of the disputes between the catholics and the protestants of the empire, in order to extend his power, and annihilate the Germanic liberty, France resolved to check the ambition of that prince;

and finding Gustavus Adolphus disposed to second her views, she concluded a treaty of alliance with him at Bernevald in 1631. By this treaty it was agreed, that the king of Sweden should keep on foot 36,000 men in Germany; that the king of France should furnish 400,000 crowns annually; that the alliance should continue till the month of May 1636, and that it should then be renewed if peace was not established. It was, however, renewed before that period, at Heilbrunn in 1633, and afterwards at Weymar in 1636, with some alterations agreeable to the circumstances of that period.

France always depended upon the assistance and support of Sweden; but a party was formed against her in that kingdom. She, however, on the 14th of April, 1672, got the king to sign a treaty, by which the two courts agreed, reciprocally to guarantee each other; and if any prince of the empire assisted Holland, Sweden engaged, should negotiation prove ineffectual, to employ force and arms. By this treaty, Charles XI. was involved in a war which gave him a  
disgust

disgust for the alliance of France. A coolness between these two courts subsisted till 1735; but on the 15th of June that year, they concluded a treaty of subsidies, which was not ratified till 1738; and in 1741 a treaty of commerce cemented this new union. By the latter, the subjects of the king of France were permitted to import into Sweden all kinds of merchandize not prohibited by the laws of the country, and to carry on trade, free from every duty but those paid by the Swedes themselves, excepting, however, the privileges of immunity granted to Swedish vessels. The same advantages were allowed to the subjects of the king of Sweden, and they were exempted from duties of freight in all cases, except when they should take on board a cargo of French goods, in any port of France, in order to transport them to another port of the same kingdom. The subjects of France were to enjoy in the port of Wisnar, to the exclusion of all other nations, the privilege of paying for the goods they might import thither, in French bottoms, only 3-4ths per

cent. of the value of the said merchandise. France and Sweden have since entered into different conventions ; but they have never yet come to the knowledge of the public.

On the 1st of July, 1786, there appeared a provisional convention, ratified by the king of France on the 26th of July, and by the king of Sweden on the 10th of August ; the intention of which was, to serve as an explanation of the convention of April 25th, 1741, and as the basis of a definitive treaty. The articles of this convention are as follow : Since, in virtue of the third article of the convention of 1741, the subjects of the king of France, to the exclusion of those of all other nations, are entitled to the privilege of paying for the merchandise which they import in French bottoms, only 3-4ths per cent. of the value of the above merchandise ; and as it has been found, that this concession, considering the nature and situation of the port of Wismar, does not, in any manner, answer the end proposed by the court of Sweden ; his Swedish majesty agrees to substitute, in lieu of the said immunities, liberty



## OF SWEDEN.

liberty of having warehouses at the port of Gottenburg, in the manner and on the conditions hereafter mentioned. The subjects of the king of France shall be allowed to bring into the port of Gottenburg all provisions, productions, and commodities, either of France or the American colonies, in French bottoms, without being subjected to any tax, duty, or imposition whatever. They shall be at liberty, also, to re-export them if they think proper, either in their own or Swedish vessels, without paying any duty whatever, and both in importation and re-exportation, all vessels belonging to France shall not be obliged to pay any higher duties than those paid by the vessels of Sweden. The said right of having warehouses being intended for no other purpose, than that of enabling French merchants to dispose of their merchandise, either in the territories of the king of Sweden, or in any other of the northern countries, the goods which they may deposit there shall always be considered as in the vessels which have brought them; consequently, they cannot be subjected

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ed to any search, until the moment when the owners wish to take them from the warehouses, in order to import them into the kingdom of Sweden. Provisions and merchandise, taken from these warehouses to be imported into Sweden, shall pay upon the spot, or at the first custom-house of the kingdom at which they arrive, the same duties as are now, or may be there afterwards established, in the same manner and at the same rate as they ought to have paid them had they been directly imported into the said kingdom, without passing through Gottenburg, the common place of deposit.

In return, the king of France cedes for ever, to the king and crown of Sweden, the full right and sovereignty of the isle of St. Bartholomew in the West Indies, and all its dependencies, without restriction or reserve; but this cession shall by no means be, in any manner, prejudicial to the property or possessions of the French inhabitants, and others in the said island. The king of Sweden promises and engages, to preserve to the same inhabitants the full right of exercising the  
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the catholic religion. The French inhabitants, or others who are subjects to the most Christian king in the island of St. Bartholomew, and their descendants, may, at all times, retire to such parts of the king's dominions as they shall think proper, and may sell and transport their effects, without being restrained in their emigrations, on any pretence whatever, except in cases of debt or criminal processes; and nothing shall be exacted from them, either for duties or on any other account.

*Treaties with the King of England, Elector of Hanover.*

George I. taking advantage of circumstances, seized upon Bremen and Werden. After the death of Charles XII. Sweden, obliged to satisfy its enemies, made peace with the king of England, on the 20th of November, 1719; yielded up Bremen and Werden to him and his heirs, and, in return, obtained a million of crowns.

On the 21st of January, 1720, a treaty  
was

was concluded between England and Sweden, one essential article of which was, that the king of England should send a squadron of ships into the Baltic, to act against the Czar, with whom the Swedes were then carrying on war. The squadron arrived, but too late; for the Russians had already ravaged the coasts of Sweden.

*Treaties with Brandenburg and Prussia.*

Charles XI. yielding to the solicitations of the partisans of France, determined to take a share in the war which Louis XIV. began in 1674. Frederic William, called the grand elector, was among the number of the enemies whom Charles had to oppose. The two princes made a private peace, which was signed at St. Germain en Laye, in the year 1679. By this peace, to which the treaty of Westphalia served as a basis, Sweden ceded to the elector all its possessions on the right shore of the Oder, and renounced its share in the duties established, on the elector's account, in the ports of  
farther

farther Pomerania. The elector, on his part, engaged not to build any fortresses in those territories which were ceded to him.

Frederic William I. king of Prussia, like the other neighbours of Sweden, took advantage of the misfortunes of Charles XII. By the treaty of Stockholm, concluded in 1720, he obtained the city of Stettin, and the duties belonging to it; Golnaw and Dam; the isles of Volin and Usedom; and all the lands situated between the Oder and the Pehne. It was agreed also, that the latter river should serve as a boundary, and belong in common to both powers. The treaty concluded at Hamburgh between these powers on the 1st of February 1761, and which put an end to the war carried on by the Swedes against Prussia in Pomerania, made no alteration in any thing that related to the preceding treaties.

*Treaties with Holland.*

When the treaty of peace concluded at Nimeguen put an end to the troubles ex-  
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cited by the ambition of Louis XIV. a private treaty was signed in the same city, on the 12th of October, 1679, between Holland and Sweden, by which the two contracting powers agreed, to forget every thing past, and to enter into that amity and friendship which had always subsisted between them.

*Treaties with Denmark.*

The first remarkable treaty concluded between Sweden and Denmark, is that of Knærryd, signed on the 13th of January, 1613. By this treaty it was stipulated, that Denmark should bear in its armorial shield three crowns, but without taking advantage of this prerogative, to form any pretensions to the prejudice of Sweden; that, on the other hand, Sweden should be freed from the duties exacted in the Sound; and that the king of Denmark should restore all those places which he had taken possession of, except Elfsburg and Guldberg, which were not to be evacuated until Sweden had paid

a million of crowns in the space of six years. Perfect harmony subsisted between these two courts till the year 1644, when it was interrupted by a short war, which was terminated by the peace of Bræmsebro, in 1645. By the articles of this peace, Denmark ceded to Sweden the provinces of Hiemtland, and Herjedalia, together with the isles of Oesel and Gothland. A fresh war breaking out in 1657, gave rise to the treaty of Roschild in 1659; by which Sweden obtained Scandia, Halland, Blekingen, the fief of Bohus, and the fief of Tronthem, with the island of Bornholm. The king of Denmark engaged also to satisfy the duke of Holstein. Sweden, on the other hand, renounced all those rights which it might have, from the duchy of Bremen, to the counties of Delmenhorst and Ditmarsen, and to the possessions of some gentlemen of Holstein. Scarcely was this treaty concluded, when the flames of war were again kindled; but the success of the Swedes was less brilliant. Charles Gustavus died, and the regency established by the states concluded, at Copenhagen in 1660, a treaty

treaty by which Denmark recovered the fief of Tronthem and the island of Bornholm.

While Charles XI. was combating in the cause of Louis XIV. the Danes invaded Scandia; and the war was carried on with equal success on both sides till the peace of Lund, in 1679, restored tranquillity, and confirmed preceding treaties. The treaty of Travendal, which Charles XII. compelled Frederic IV. to conclude in 1700, secured to the duke of Holstein his rights of sovereignty in the towns and bailliwicks belonging to him, and a perfect equality as coregent. Besides this, it confirmed the agreement before made respecting the bishoprick of Lubec; and Denmark renounced the alternate possession of it with the duke of Holstein.

All the enemies whom Charles XII. had raised up against Sweden took advantage, at his death, of the deplorable situation the Swedes then were in, to compel them to make peace on their own terms. By the treaty concluded with Denmark, at Stockholm,



holm, on the 14th of June, 1720, Sweden engaged no longer to oppose the conventions stipulated between Denmark, France and England, respecting the duchy of Sleswick, and to give no assistance to the duke of Holstein, in any attempt he might make to recover it. Sweden subjected itself also, to pay the duties exacted in the Sound, at the same rate as the most favoured nations. On the other hand, Denmark renounced all pretensions to Wismar, and agreed to pay to Sweden the sum of 600,000 crowns. The treaty concluded between the two kingdoms in 1734, confirmed all preceding treaties, and secured to Sweden the right of having a post-office at Elsinore, and a consul authorised to levy and to pay the customs due for Swedish vessels. The treaty of Stræmstad, concluded in 1751, regulated in a definitive manner the limits of Sweden and of Norway.

*Treaties with Poland.*

The pretensions formed by John Casimir  
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to the prejudice of Charles X. who had been elected by the states, kindled up a war between Sweden and Poland. This war being terminated by the peace of Oliva in 1660, John Casimir acknowledged the nullity of the rights which he claimed, and Sweden obtained all that part of Livonia which is beyond the Dwina, except a few places, and the isle of Ruynen.

*Treaties with Russia.*

It would be of no use to point out the ancient treaties between Sweden and Russia: the political relation of these two countries does not become interesting till the commencement of this century. On the 10th of September, 1721, a treaty was signed at Nyftad, the conditions of which were, that the Czar should retain all the provinces conquered by his arms, viz. Livonia, Estonia, Ingria, part of Carelia, the fief of Wiburg, that of Kexholm, and all the islands on the coasts of Livonia, Estonia and Ingria, from  
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the frontiers of Courland, as well as those on the eastern side of Revel; that the king of Sweden should not assume the titles of the ceded provinces, and that he himself should give them to the Czar; that the Czar should pay two millions of crowns to Sweden; that he should not meddle with the internal affairs of that kingdom; and that the Swedes should be permitted to purchase grainy early at Riga, Revel, and Arensburg, to the value of 50,000 roubles, free of all duty.

Three years after, on the 22d of February, 1724, the two powers signed a treaty of defensive alliance, to continue for twelve years. This treaty was scarcely expired when the war of Finland broke out; but a peace was concluded at Obo, on the 17th of August, 1743. By the articles of this peace, Sweden confirmed all the cessions made in 1721; it ceded besides a part of Kymenegord, and the district of Nyflot, with all the islands situated to the south and east of the river Kymene. The articles of

the treaty of Nyftad relating to commerce were alfo confirmed.

*Treaties with Turkey.*

Charles XII. being defeated at Pultawa, fought an afylum among the Turks, and was received with that generous hospitality which is one of the diftinguifhing features in the character of thefe people. The valour and intrepidity of Charles had ftruck the Muffulmans, and given them the higheft idea of the courage of the Swedes. Notwithftanding the diftance which Nature has eftablifhed between the countries they inhabit, thefe two nations entered into a clofe friendship; and the apprehenfions which they each entertained of the power of the Ruffians, their common enemies, tended to render the bonds of it ftill ftronger. In 1736, two Swedifh merchants were fent to Conftantinople, and the year following, Sweden and the Porte concluded a treaty of commerce, in virtue of which

Swedish merchants and their vessels, as well as other merchants which might be on board these vessels, are granted full liberty to trade in all the ports of the Turkish empire, on paying an impost of 300 aspers: they are exempted from every other burden, and their merchandise pay only three per cent. duty. A treaty, still more important, was concluded between Sweden and the Porte, on the 22d of August, 1739, the principal articles of which were as follow: Though there be a perpetual peace between Sweden and the Porte, on the one side, and Russia on the other, nevertheless, if the latter attempts any enterprize against one or other of these contracting powers, the former shall in concert, and without delay, take such measures as may be best calculated to protect them from every insult. If Russia attacks Sweden, or the Ottoman Porte, hostilities shall be considered as commenced against both parties; war shall be declared against the aggressor, both by sea and land, and neither of the two parties shall lay down

their arms, until proper satisfaction has been obtained. Each of the contracting powers engages, not to listen to any proposal made by the enemy towards a peace, without communicating it to the other party, nor to conclude a separate peace. The present treaty confirms that of commerce concluded in 1737, and the subjects of Sweden shall enjoy, in the Ottoman empire, the same immunities as other nations friends to the Porte. The regencies of Tunis, Algiers, and Tripoli being under the dominion of the sublime Porte, the latter shall include them in the present alliance, and order them to conform themselves thereto. Sweden, besides, has some particular conventions with these regencies, and the emperor of Morocco, respecting commerce.

*Treaties with some other Powers.*

In the year 1651, Sweden entered into a treaty of commerce with Spain, which was renewed in 1679 and 1743. By this treaty,  
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the Swedes are allowed to trade with perfect security in all the ports of that country. In 1641, it was stipulated with Portugal, that the Swedes should enjoy, in every port of that kingdom, the same privileges as those granted to the Dutch. In 1743, Sweden concluded a treaty of commerce with the king of the two Sicilies, by which the two powers guarantee a reciprocal protection to their commerce. Gustavus III. and Catherine II. laid the foundation of an armed neutrality, by a convention which their ministers signed at Peterburgh, on the 21st of July, 1780. As soon as the independence of America was acknowledged, the king of Sweden entered into a treaty of friendship and commerce with the Americans, which was signed at Paris, on the 3d of April, 1783, by the count de Creutz and Dr. Franklin.

*Ambassadors, Ministers, &c.*

The court of Sweden has, for a long time, sent an ambassador to Paris, and for some

years back it has sent one to Copenhagen. It has also envoys extraordinary at Berlin, Dresden, the Hague, London, Madrid, Petersburg, Ratisbon and Vienna; ministers at Constantinople, Hamburgh, and Warsaw; agents at Amsterdam, Hamburgh, Lisbon, Lubeck, Naples and Rome; a commissary at Dantzick; consuls general at Bourdeaux, Cadiz, Havre de Grace, Elfinore, Marseilles, l'Orient and Petersburg; consuls at Algiers, Alicant, Bayonne, Boston, Calais, Cagliari, Carthagenà, Charles-Town, Croisic, Dunkirk, Genoa, Honfleur, Leghorn, London, Madeira, Malaga, Montpellier, Cette, Nantz, Nice, Ostend, Philadelphia, the isle of Rhe, Rochelle, Riga, Rochefort, Rouen, Salée, Tripoli, Tunis, Trieste, Venice, and Wiburgh.

The king of Sweden has lately appointed envoys extraordinary to different courts of Italy, viz. Naples, Turin, Florence, Modena, Rome, and the republics of Venice and Genoa.

There is generally at Stockholm an ambassador from the court of France; a minister



fter plenipotentiary from the court of Ruffia; envoys extraordinary from thofe of England, Denmark, Spain, Pruffia, Saxony, and from their High Mightineffes. France fends a conful to Gottenburg, and an agent to Stockholm.

## C H A P. V.

## CONSTITUTION.

A Spectacle long unknown engages, at present, universal attention. Roused to a sense of their own importance, and become more enlightened by the lamp of science, mankind now begin to assert their natural privileges, and to debate with freedom on the constitution of empires. The rights of the citizen are analysed; the principles and organisation of empires are discussed; and amidst that fermentation which attends sudden political changes, the shock of opinions gives rise to the most striking scenes.

There are few countries in which the constitution, that is to say, the basis of public happiness, has undergone so many changes, and revolutions, or been so uncertain and variable, as in Sweden. In the remotest ages there was a monarch, a senate, and states; but savage and barbarous manners

ners often disturbed that harmony which ought to prevail amongst these three depositories of power. During the union of Calmar, the fundamental laws absolutely lost their influence, and despotism and anarchy reigned, in turns, throughout that unfortunate period. Happier days arose, however, to Sweden: when Gustavus I. became sovereign, the ambition of the great received a check, and foreign tyrants disappeared. The king possessed the principal authority; the senate supported it by their counsel, and the states assembled on important occasions. The act of assurance which Gustavus Adolphus delivered to the representatives of the nation, when he mounted the throne, is still preserved. That prince promised to maintain the Lutheran religion; to deliberate with the states on the alterations to be made in the laws, on the taxes to be imposed, on the political alliances to be formed, on the wars to be undertaken, and on the treaties of peace to be concluded. He engaged, besides, to preserve to the four orders their privileges, and to inflict no punishment, but  
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after a legal process. It was natural for Axel Oxenstierna, descended from one of the first families in Sweden, to interest himself in the fate of the nobility. Being consulted by Gustavus Adolphus, respecting the manner in which he ought to behave towards that body, he pointed out those services which the nobility had done to the state, and those which they might still render it, in the critical situation in which it then stood. The monarch approved the advice of his minister, shewed himself favourably disposed towards the nobility, and granted them several privileges. His daughter, Christina, followed the same principles: the nobles obtained from her generosity great part of the crown domains, and became the rivals of the royal power. Charles X. was proposing a plan for humbling them; but a sudden death put an end to his projects, and his career. During the minority of Charles XI. their influence was still supported, and even increased. Jealousy and discontent beginning, however, to prevail, the king, when he became major, took advantage of  
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this circumstance. He gained over the three inferior orders, triumphed over the nobility, and made himself absolute sovereign in 1680. The same cause had produced the same effect in Denmark. Endowed with several valuable qualities, wise, economical, and fond of peace, Charles supported his work, and rendered his reign glorious to Sweden. He consoled his subjects for the loss of their privileges, and the severity with which he sometimes caused them to take up arms, by promoting industry and commerce, reforming the laws, giving the land and naval forces that consistence which they wanted, and by securing to the kingdom an honourable weight in the political balance of Europe. His son was born a sovereign, and proved by his whole conduct that he was so; but by listening to no advice, and following only his own will, he precipitated the nation into an abyss of misfortunes.

On the death of Charles XII. all with one voice demanded a revolution in the government. Circumstances favoured this enterprise:

prise: Ulrica Eleonora, who pretended to the crown, was a princess destitute of firmness; she feared the partisans of the duke of Holstein; and the states having assembled in 1719, they obtained every thing they required. When Ulrica had determined to resign the sceptre to her husband, Prince Frederic of Hesse Cassel, new conditions were prescribed. Frederic, who was resolved to possess the crown at any price, accepted the proposed terms, and the privileges of the people were enlarged.

That absolute sovereignty which had subsisted nearly forty years, was succeeded all of a sudden, and too rapidly, by a liberty almost without bounds.

The supreme power was now in the hands of the states, who altered the laws, declared war, made peace, concluded alliances, and disposed of the army according to their own pleasure. They likewise imposed taxes, fixed the value of money, assembled every three years, whether convoked or not, and never terminated the diet until they thought proper. The senate was respon-

fible to them for its conduct ; and the king had no power of introducing into that body, but one of three subjects proposed to him. Nothing, therefore, remained to the sovereign but the executive power, and the right of appointing to the different offices. Both these privileges were abridged at the diet of 1756 ; and the states proceeded so far, as to furnish the senate with a royal seal, to be employed whenever the king should refuse to sign.

The court, however, had partisans who undertook to avenge its cause. The count de Brahe, the first nobleman in the kingdom, and descended from the family of Vasa, the count de Hord, and baron de Horn, were at the head of this enterprise. Arms were collected ; sailors had been engaged ; and the signal was about to be given, when the states received information of their design. Count de Hord betook himself to flight ; but count de Brahe, trusting to his birth, his rank, and the remonstrances of the court, remained, and was conducted to prison. All those who were suspected shared  
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the same fate. Being brought to trial before a tribunal, the members of which were both judges and accusers, hatred and animosity pronounced the sentence of death. Count de Brahe, baron de Horn, and three others, were publicly beheaded, in the capital, opposite to the church of Riddarholm, while the king's guards attended to preserve good order.

Thus did the party of the *hats*, which at that time prevailed, manifest its zeal for a liberty more fatal than useful to the nation. The influence of the king was too much weakened, and the equilibrium of the different powers had disappeared; liberty was unacquainted with the restraint of clear and permanent laws; and the interests of the people were not concentrated in one focus, the welfare of the public. The two factions, that of the *hats*, and that of the *caps*, the one supported by France, and the other by England and Russia, triumphed in turns, according to the abilities of their chiefs. The court wavered between these two factions, neither of which favoured it; and the diets  
were



were like theatres in which opposite passions contended. During these debates, disorder prevailed in the administration, and the national virtues lost all their energy: One diet overturned what another had wisely established; and the Swedes, naturally tractable, honest, and loyal, acquired a spirit of intrigue, venality, and revolt.

Such was the state of the kingdom when Gustavus III. assumed the sceptre. This prince offered his mediation, but it was rejected; and though he remonstrated and entreated, his success was still the same. He at length, however, had recourse to an act of vigour which was not expected. Sure of France, and having perfect confidence in the greater part of the army, he addressed himself to the nation, traced out a picture of the condition of the kingdom, and laid before them his designs. His eloquent and persuasive harangue, notwithstanding its being delivered in a language foreign to the kings of Sweden since the time of Charles XII. was listened to with attention: as it announced a beneficent project, the re-establishment

blishment of good order and of public happiness, it met with universal applause, and the triumph of the monarch was complete. The revolution began on the 19th of August, 1772, and on the 21st of the same month it was fully accomplished. The execution of those enterprizes which change the face of empires has too often been marked with blood: this, however, was effected without any; and it was concluded with a celerity of which it would be difficult to find an example in history.

The form of government signed by the states, upon this occasion, is as follows: The king shall be the only and supreme chief of the nation; but bound to respect the established laws, which shall alone determine respecting the honour, the happiness, and the lives of his subjects. The senators shall be his counsellors, and give him their advice, sometimes as a body, and sometimes separately. The king, however, shall have the right of deciding, except in affairs of justice, in which he shall have only two votes, and a decisive vote in cases where the votes upon  
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both sides are equal. Senators appointed by the king shall be responsible to him only. Other offices shall also be in his gift: a very important privilege, in a country where great fortunes are uncommon, and where there are few citizens who possess independence. The king may restore to their honours and estates, those whom the laws have deprived of them; and he may pardon such criminals as have been capitally convicted. Different bodies shall be appointed to support the monarch in the internal administration of the kingdom. The army shall take an oath of fidelity to the king and the states. The representatives of the nation shall not assemble but when convoked by the king; and their deliberations shall not continue beyond three months at most. The king shall consult the states respecting any reformation in the laws; and the states shall consult him, in their turn, concerning the same important object. The king alone shall have the right of coining the current money; but he must have the consent of the states, in order to change its value.

Their consent is also necessary for carrying on offensive wars; but, if the kingdom is attacked, he may march troops into the field by his own authority, and even raise subsidies, in cases of necessity. These subsidies, however, shall cease with the war; and the states must be then assembled, to take such measures as may be thought most expedient. Their approbation shall be requisite in all other cases, in which the king may be desirous of levying new taxes. The states are empowered to appoint the members of the secret committee, who shall deliberate with the king upon such objects as it may be thought advisable not to communicate to the public. The four orders shall retain the privileges which they enjoy; but none of them, in particular, shall obtain new ones, without the consent of the rest. These privileges have often been a source of division and debate: those of the nobility are most extensive, and the other orders have, upon more than one occasion, shewn, that they were jealous of them. The king alone shall take upon him the administration  
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of the German provinces; but he shall govern them according to the conventions of the peace of Westphalia. The cities of Sweden shall be maintained in the full possession of those rights which they formerly acquired; but they shall nevertheless resign them when the common good may require such a sacrifice. The bank of Stockholm shall remain under the guarantee of the states—a very material article for the prosperity of the kingdom, as the support of national credit depends essentially upon it. The kingdom declared hereditary under Gustavus I. shall be so for ever. The heir to the throne shall take his seat in the council at the age of eighteen, and at twenty he shall be major.

The new form of government was sanctioned by universal approbation, and the seeds of discord seemed to be destroyed by this revolution: but the calm did not long continue, and new clouds obscured the political horizon of Sweden. About the end of the diet of 1778, the harmony between the king and the representatives of the nation was a little interrupted; but during that

of 1786 a decided opposition was formed. Of four propositions offered by the king, one only was passed. It was resolved that a junction of the three orders was necessary to form a plurality, except in cases relating to taxes, or the particular privileges of each order. The states agreed also that the term *welfare*, employed in the paragraph respecting the form of government which fixes the privileges of the citizen, should comprehend offices likewise ; and that people could not be deprived of them, without a legal process. The determination of the states, on these two points, being communicated to the king, he declared that they were agreeable to his own ideas.

Two years had elapsed after the holding of this diet, when the army was conducted into Finland, with an intention of combating the Russians, which it indeed did, until several of the officers, pretending that Sweden had not been attacked, refused to serve, and entered into a negotiation with the court of Russia. The king, finding that he could not depend upon his troops, quitted  
Finland,

Finland, and having traversed several of the northern and western provinces of Sweden, harangued the Dalecarlians on the same spot where Gustavus I. addressed them, when he had recourse to their valour, to deliver his country from a foreign yoke. These brave mountaineers offered to raise, at their own expence, a body of troops, whom his majesty might dispose of as he thought proper. Every heart was touched by the eloquence of the Swedish monarch; and the people every where declared in his favour. Setting out for Gottenburg, he arrived there when the Danes were about to besiege it; but his presence revived the courage of the inhabitants, and the project of the enemy miscarried. In the mean while, the troops who remained at Stockholm, had orders to march towards Gottenburg; and the defence of the capital, the castle, and the royal family was entrusted to the citizens. Against the officers of Finland there appeared several anonymous publications, which accused them of treason; and in some of them the most odious imputations were thrown upon the

whole body of the nobility. Two respectable powers, wishing to preserve an equilibrium in the north, offered their mediation, and interested themselves in behalf of the king of Sweden. His majesty returned to the capital on the 19th of December, 1788, and entering the city in triumph, was received amidst the acclamations of an immense crowd of spectators. Next morning he repaired to the town-house, expressed his gratitude to the citizens in the most polite terms, and assured them of his royal affection.

The diet having met on the 26th of January, 1789, the king requested that the representatives of the nation would appoint a secret committee, with whom he might deliberate on the state of affairs. A committee was accordingly appointed; but the nobility wished, that they might receive instructions to serve them as a guide, and to limit their powers. The marshal of the diet declared that the king considered the proposal of the nobility contrary to the established form of government. During the discussion of this  
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point the marshal having experienced a very violent opposition from some of the members, complained to the king, and refused to make his appearance at the hotel of the nobility until he had obtained satisfaction. On the 17th of February, the four orders were convoked in the hall of the states, and the king delivered a discourse replete with force and energy. He demanded that the nobility should make a proper reparation to the marshal, by expunging, from their registers, those deliberations which related to the difficulties that had arisen between the chamber and its president; that a deputation should be sent to offer an apology to the marshal, and to accompany him to the hall of the order, where the required erasure should at the same time be made in his presence; and that count de Fersen, baron Charles de Geer, and the other deputies of the nobility mentioned in the marshal's complaint, should be at the head of this deputation. The nobility, however, maintained that the complaint was ill founded, and refused to comply with the king's order.

Affairs

Affairs could not long remain in this state of violence. A deputation from the clergy, citizens, and peasants, repaired to the castle, and begged the king to take such measures as he might judge proper to restore activity and vigour to the diet. On the 20th of February, the deputies of the equestrian order, who had signalized themselves most by their resistance, were arrested and conveyed to prison.

Next morning a full assembly, composed of the four orders united, was held in the hall of the states. The king opened the meeting by a speech; and having explained his reasons for securing the persons of the deputies, the marshal's baton, which he had resigned, was restored to him. Prince Charles, duke of Sudermania, delivered a very remarkable discourse, in which he bestowed the greatest encomiums on the army, and declared, that, during the whole time it was under his command, he had observed nothing in that body, but exemplary obedience, and the most ardent zeal for the service: he concluded with exhorting the representatives

presentatives of the nation to exert themselves in promoting the happiness of the state, and to entertain no views contrary to the end of their convocation. When the duke of Sudermania had finished his speech, the king again addressed the assembly, and recurring to what he had before said, respecting the spirit of discord and party kept up by the insinuations of foreigners, he ascribed this spirit to private interest, which dividing the orders, fomented hatred, envy, intrigues, and cabals. After this introduction, a fundamental law was presented to the states, under the denomination of an *Act of Union and Safety*, a copy of which follows.

With a view to banish, at all times, from us and from our dear country, those violent commotions, which, through the fault of individuals fired with ambition and a thirst of power; by secret intrigues carried on by foreigners, and by jealousy and discord excited among the three orders of the kingdom, have so often endangered the existence of the state, as well as public security,  
and

and produced division, not only among the subjects, but even between the monarch and the nation; and in order to establish fundamental principles, which may serve as a basis to constitutional laws, by removing, for the future, every obscurity and partial addition, it has pleased our most gracious sovereign, for himself and successors, to agree with us to the following *Act of Union and Safety*.

ART. I. We acknowledge that we have an hereditary king, empowered to govern the kingdom, to maintain it in safety, and to defend it; to declare war, to make peace, and to conclude treaties of alliance with foreign powers; to distribute favours, to pardon criminals, to restore honours and possessions, to dispose according to his good pleasure of all the offices of the kingdom, which must be filled with natives of Sweden, and to support the tribunals and the laws. Other public affairs shall be managed in such a manner as his majesty shall think most conducive to the welfare of the state.

ART. II. We consider ourselves as free subjects,

subjects, obedient to the laws, and enjoying security under a king legally crowned, who governs us according to the laws established in Sweden. And in quality of subjects all equally free, we are entitled also to enjoy, under the protection of the laws, privileges the same in every respect whatever ; consequently, the king's supreme tribunal, in which all affairs of justice and revision terminate, and in which his majesty has two votes, must be composed of members both peasants and nobility ; and for the future, the number of senators, entitled to sit in this tribunal, shall entirely depend on the good pleasure of the king, his majesty engaging at the same time, that all and each shall be protected against every act of violence, and that no one shall suffer, either in his body, limbs, or possessions, until he has been tried according to the laws.

ART. III. A nation equally free ought to have equal privileges, and, consequently, all orders ought to be entitled to possess lands in their common country, in such manner, however, that the nobility may retain

tain their ancient rights, on the footing established, and hitherto observed, of possessing noble and free lands, called *sæterier*, *ro* and *roers hemman*, and *insokne hemman*, in Scandia, Halland, and Blekingen. Besides, no change shall be made in the nature of copy-holds, nor in their distinction from other lands. The obligation, however, of furnishing horses to travellers shall be the same in all estates, the *sæteriers*, the *ro* and *roers hemman*, and the *insokne hemman* and *bostellen* excepted. The right of the peasants to purchase the rents of royal lands, and to convert them into taxed lands, as well as the secure possession of these acquisitions, has been already fixed by a particular ordonance, equally secure as if it had been inserted in the present act.

ART. IV. High dignities, the principal offices of the state, and places at court, shall be held exclusively by persons of the equestrian order. Their abilities, merit, experience, and the example which they have given of the social virtues, shall be the only and legal titles to every other superior or

inferior

inferior post and employment in the kingdom, without regard to birth or any order whatever. In case, however, that any peasant, invested with a charge, shall be raised to the rank of gentleman, he cannot, for the safety of the peasants, longer hold an office which he may have before obtained and occupied under the denomination of a peasant.

ART. V. As true liberty consists in giving freely, for the support of the kingdom, what may be judged necessary, the Swedish nation has the incontestable right of deliberating with the king on this subject, and of granting or refusing supplies.

ART. VI. During the sitting of the diet, the states of the kingdom shall not take into consideration any objects but such as are proposed by the king, as was usual before the year 1680.

ART. VII. The privileges granted to the nobility and clergy in 1723, and the well-acquired rights and privileges of cities, are confirmed, in all points, not contrary to the present act of safety.

ART. VIII.

ART. VIII. Every king of Sweden, on his accession to the throne, shall sign the present *Act of Union and Safety*. He shall never be permitted to make the least proposal, or attempt whatever, to introduce the smallest change in the literal tenor of it; nor to give it a different meaning, or explanation. And in case the royal family shall become extinct, the king elected must maintain all the rights herein specified, and bind himself to observe them without the least alteration.

ART. IX. The form of government established on the 22d of August, 1772, shall be permanent and invariable, in all points, not changed by the present act.

This act being read, the king asked whether the states would receive it as a fundamental law. Among the clergy, the citizens, and the order of the peasants, there was a decided majority in its favour; but a plurality of the nobility having answered in the negative, the discussion of this important affair was referred to the states.

The speakers of the clergy, the citizens,  
and



and the peasants signed this act, in the name of their respective orders; but the nobility always refused, and remonstrated against it. They pretended, that the *Act of Union and Safety* was an absolute infringement of the constitution; and that the consent of the four orders was necessary before it could pass. Though the king considered the question as decided, three of the orders having unanimously acknowledged the new law, it was however necessary to put an end to the contest. The marshal, therefore, was deputed to the king, who declared, in presence of the speakers of the three orders, that since, by the decrees of the diet of 1786, and the form of government then established, every act serving to explain the constitution (such as the *Act of Union and Safety*) ought to acquire the force of a law, by a plurality of three orders against one, the marshal was fully authorized, and even bound in duty, to sign the act in the name of the equestrian order, of which he was the chief. The marshal having signed it, the king ordered him and the speakers not

to permit, after that day, any thing to be proposed contrary to the act, which for the future should be considered as a constitutional law. In the first assembly of the nobility, the marshal's conduct was disavowed, and a protest was entered against his signature.

When the diet was terminated, a solemn sanction to the *Act of Union and Safety* was not found in its decrees. This sanction was given by the king on the 3d of April, 1789, and the act, printed at the royal printing-office, was published in all the churches as a fundamental law of the kingdom. It concluded with a clause containing some points which deserve to be remarked. The judges of the higher and lower tribunals, as well as all those in office who have not the rank of *confidential servants* to the king, or who hold no share in the government, cannot be divested of their charges, but by a legal trial. The privileges of the nobility, clergy, cities, and whole country, are expressly confirmed\*. By another decree of the

\* The privileges of the nobility appeared on the 10th of October,

the king the senate has lately been suppressed; and the supreme tribunal mentioned in the *Act of Union and Safety* supplies the place of that ancient body.

It may be here necessary to give an account of the present organisation of the diet. It is composed of the king and the four orders, the nobility, clergy, citizens and pea-

October, 1723, the principal of which were as follow: The king promises to bestow all the high offices on the nobility; they shall be at liberty to carry on trade; the lands of the nobility, which have been confiscated, shall not remain with the crown; they may be redeemed by any one of the family, and failing the family, by any Swedish gentleman; but they can be purchased by no peasant.

The privileges of the clergy, which appeared also on the 16th of October, the same year, were to the following purpose: The king confirms to the clergy, the revenues and donations which have been given them, and particularly the *Vederlag* or a certain quantity of corn assigned them from the crown lands, and estates of individuals, at a time when there were no inns, to enable them to shew their hospitality to strangers; no royal duties shall be levied from the rents, or revenues, of the clergy; lodging-houses for travellers, and the tithe of feed, shall not be subject to any inspection from governors, intendants, or others employed by the king; the privileges of cities and citizens shall relate principally to the exercise of trades and commerce; those granted to the country or order of peasants, are in a great measure contained in the *Act of Union and Safety*.

fants. The nobility are divided into three classes, that of counts and barons, that of knights or ancient gentlemen, without titles, and that of esquires, *Sven*, comprehending all untitled gentlemen who have obtained letters of nobility since the reign of Charles XI. There are reckoned to be in Sweden 1300 noble families, which is a great number in a kingdom containing scarcely three millions of inhabitants. The eldest of each family sits in the diet, under the name of *caput familie*. The regulations drawn up by Gustavus Adolphus, and known under the title of *Regulations for the Hotel of the Nobility*, serve as a guide to this order during the sitting of the states. A marshal appointed by the king presides over their deliberations, and in his absence the oldest count.

The fourteen prelates of the kingdom, that is to say, the archbishop of Upsal and the thirteen bishops, have a right, by their offices, to assist at the diet, and each arch-deaconry deposes one or two representatives, elected by a plurality of votes. Every beneficed clergyman whatever has a right of voting

voting at these elections ; but those generally chosen are archdeacons or rectors. The expences of these deputies are defrayed by their constituents. The archbishop of Upsal is speaker of the order, and failing him the bishop of Linkœping.

The citizens are represented by the deputies of cities. Stockholm has ten ; cities of the second class have two or three, and the rest send only one. It sometimes happens, that two small cities are represented by the same person, for the sake of economy, because the expences of the deputies must be defrayed by their constituents. To be qualified to vote, one must be a citizen, and twenty-four years of age: those who are elected must have also attained to the same age, and have been enrolled citizens three years.

Farmers who cultivate lands belonging to them and their descendants, as long as they fulfil their engagements with the crown, constitute in the diet the order of peasants. Sweden is the only country where the representatives of the body of labourers form

a separate and distinct class in the national assembly. Many deliberations respecting the public interests may arise, and many objects may occur, which a peasant can neither be acquainted with nor appreciate; but there are many discussed also, which concern him in a peculiar manner, and for the explanation of which, his sentiments may be of the greatest utility. In discussions even which appear to be beyond his knowledge, he may catch some luminous points of view, if the subject be presented to him in a proper light, without any false colouring. Plain good sense and natural logic judge often as soundly, as the mind cultivated by application and study. Each bailliwick appoints a deputy, and defrays his expences. The order of the peasants, and that of the citizens have a speaker named by the king, who also appoints a secretary to the peasants: his office is a civil employment; and he has always a great deal of influence. The army may be represented in the states when summoned to attend by letters of convocation: the colonels of the different

regiments, and a certain number of commissioned officers, are its deputies. There are in Sweden several proprietors of land, mines, and forges, who belong to none of the four orders of the kingdom: as this class of citizens did not exist when the states were organised, they are not at present represented.

The opening and closing of the diet exhibits a grand and beautiful spectacle. The king, in all the insignia of royal majesty, goes from the castle to the cathedral, followed by the states in procession, and divine service is performed as usual, except that the sermon is always preached by a bishop. From the cathedral his majesty repairs to a hall in the castle, destined for receiving the representatives of the nation; the assembly is then formed, and the monarch, seated on his throne, delivers a discourse, to which the marshal and the speakers return an answer. If there are any petitions to be laid before the states, they are read by the chancellor of the court. Every thing engages the attention of the spectator, in this august scene; but

nothing strikes him so much as the part acted by the peasants. How delightful to see the labourer, in a simple and rustic dress, take his seat close to other citizens; approach the throne with confidence, and speak to his sovereign without fear, and without embarrassment! Ye unfortunate peasants of Russia and Poland, how different is your condition from this noble state of existence! You moisten the earth with the sweat of your brows; you till it with pain; and the sweet idea of none of those privileges or advantages which do honour to humanity, and exalt mankind, ever alleviates your misfortunes, or carries joy and consolation to your cottages! You have neither country nor possessions; a cruel despot sacrifices you to his caprice; and you dare not give vent to those complaints which a torn and bleeding heart conveys to your lips! Forgive, O reader, this involuntary emotion of a soul which loves and respects all mortals, of whatever rank they may be—of a soul which suffers when it beholds man bent under the yoke of misfortune, and which is  
shocked,



shocked, and filled with indignation when it sees him vilified and degraded.

When the states are assembled, they establish, by means of electors chosen by a plurality of voices, different committees, charged with the preliminary discussion of such objects as are to be laid before them. These committees transmit to their constituents the result of their enquiries, which serve as a guide to the four orders in their decrees.

The nobility sit in their own hotel; the clergy in the vestry of the cathedral; the citizens in a hall of the town-house; and the peasants in another hall of the same building.

## C H A P. VI.

## INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION.

**I**N all states of a certain extent, the internal administration is a complicated machine, the different springs of which are difficult to be understood. Those who study them, however, are rewarded for their labour; as it is of the utmost importance to know by what means the repose, happiness, and security of citizens are preserved.

The whole kingdom of Sweden is divided into twenty-eight governments.

I. The government of Upsal, which comprehends the greater part of the province of Upland: the governor resides at Upsal.

II. The government of Stockholm; it comprehends part of Upland and Sudermania: the governor resides at Stockholm.

III. The government of Skaraburg, which  
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comprehends the eastern part of Westrogothia: the governor resides at Marieholm, near the city of Mariestad.

IV. The government of Obo and Biørneburg; it comprehends Finland proper, and the isle of Oland. The governor's residence is at Obo.

V. The government of Cronoberg, which comprehends the western and southern part of Smoland: the governor resides at Cronoberg, near the city of Vexjæ.

VI. The government of Jænkœping; which comprehends the northern part of Smoland: the governor resides at Jænkœping.

VII. The government of Westmania; it comprehends the province of that name, except a few districts, and a part of Upland: the governor resides at Westeros.

VIII. The government of Kymenegord, which comprehends the province of that name: the governor's residence is at Heinola.

IX. The government of Savolax, which comprehends the province of that name: the governor resides at Cuopio.

X. The

X. The government of Ostrogothia ; it comprehends the province of that name : the governor resides at Linkœping.

XI. The government of Sudermania ; it comprehends the western part of that province : the governor resides at Nykœping.

XII. The government of Nyland and Tavastehus, which comprehends two provinces of that name : the governor resides at Tavastehus.

XIII. The government of Elfsburg ; it comprehends the southern part of Westrogothia and Dalia : the governor resides at Wenersburg.

XIV. The government of Calmar, which comprehends the eastern part of Smoland, and the isle of Æland.

XV. The government of Kopparberg, which comprehends Dalecarlia : the governor resides at Fahlun.

XVI. The government of Ærebro, which comprehends Nericia, together with some districts of Westmania, and of Wermland : the governor resides at Ærebro.

XVII. The government of Carlstad ; it  
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comprehends Wermland, except those districts included in the government of Örebro : the governor resides at Carlstad.

XVIII. The government of Gefleborg, which comprehends Gestrikeland and Herjedalia : the governor resides at Gefle.

XIX. The government of western Norland ; it comprehends Medelpadia, Ongermania and Hiemtland : the governor resides at Hernöefand.

XX. The government of Westrobothnia ; it comprehends the province of that name, and all Swedish Lapland, except the district of Kufamo, which belongs to the government of Uleoburg : the governor resides at Gran, near the city of Umeo.

XXI. The government of Vasa, which comprehends the southern part of Ostrobothnia : the governor resides at Vasa.

XXII. The government of Uleoburg ; it comprehends the northern part of Ostrobothnia, and the duchy of Kufamo in Lapland : the governor resides at Uleoburg.

XXIII. The government of Gothland, which comprehends the island of that name : the governor resides at Wisby.

XXIV. The government of Malmœhus; it comprehends the western and southern parts of Scandia: the governor resides at Malmœ.

XXV. The government of Blekingen, which comprehends the whole province of that name: the governor resides at Carlscrona.

XXVI. The government of Christianstad; it comprehends the eastern and northern parts of Scandia: the governor resides at Christianstad.

XXVII. The government of Halland; it comprehends the whole province of that name: the governor resides at Halmstad.

XXVIII. The government of Gottenburg and Bohus; it comprehends some districts of the western part of Westrogothia, and the province of Bohus: the governor resides at Gottenburg.

Of these different governments, those of Malmœhus, Christianstad, Blekingen, and Ostrogothia are the most populous; those of Westmania, Kopparberg, Carlstad and Örebro, the richest in mines and forges. The governors, fourteen of whom are included  
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in the military rank, watch over the internal economy of the country, the preservation of good order, and public tranquillity; the execution of ordonances, and the levying of the crown revenues. They are each assisted by a secretary, a treasurer, and several other subaltern officers. Each government has its chancery, which is under the direction of a secretary.

For the administration of justice, the kingdom is divided into four royal courts.

I. That of Stockholm, founded in 1614, which has under its cognizance Sweden proper, Norway, and the isle of Gothland. It consists of a president, a vice-president, eleven counsellors, and ten assessors. Thirty-five municipal courts, seven seneschauffees, and thirty-one territorial jurisdictions are subject to it.

II. That of Obo, founded in 1623, which has under its cognizance the governments of Obo, Tavasthus, and Kymenegord. It consists of a president, a vice-president, seven counsellors, and three assessors. Ten municipal courts, three seneschauffees, and ten territorial jurisdictions, are subject to it.

III. That

III. That of Jœnkœping, founded in 1634, which has Gothia under its cognizance. It consists of a president, a vice-president, eight counsellors, and eight assessors. Forty-five municipal courts, nine seneschauflées, and fifty-eight territorial jurisdictions, are subject to it.

IV. That of Vasa, founded in 1775, which has under its cognizance the governments of Cuopio, Uleoburg, and Vasa. It consists of a president, a vice-president, two counsellors, and four assessors. Eight municipal courts, two seneschauflées, and seven territorial jurisdictions, are subject to it.

The ecclesiastical division consists of one archbishopric and thirteen bishoprics.

The archbishopric of Upsal is the only Lutheran one in the kingdom. It comprehends Upland, Westmania, Gestrikeland, and Helfingland. Two hundred and forty-two parishes, twenty-five archdeaconries, and one hundred and sixty-six rectories, are under its jurisdiction.

The bishoprics, according to the rank assigned them, are as follow :

- I. The bishopric of Linkœping; it comprehends



prehends Ostrogothia, and a part of Smoland : 218 parishes, 22 archdeaconries, and 148 rectories belong to it.

II. The bishopric of Skara, which comprehends part of Westrogothia and Smoland : 172 parishes, 9 archdeaconries, and 114 rectories belong to it.

III. The bishopric of Strengnäs, which comprehends Nericia and Sudermania : 158 parishes, 15 archdeaconries, and 112 rectories belong to it.

IV. The bishopric of Westeros, which comprehends the greater part of Westmania and all Dalecarlia : 101 parishes, 14 archdeaconries, and 84 rectories belong to it.

V. The bishopric of Vexjæ, which comprehends the greater part of Smoland : 184 parishes, 12 archdeaconries, and 88 rectories belong to it.

VI. The bishopric of Obo ; it comprehends that part of Finland which forms the governments of Obo, Vasa, Uleoburg, and a part of those of Nyland and Tavesthus, together with the district of Kemi in Lapland :

130 parishes, 18 archdeaconries, and 118 rectories belong to it.

VII. The bishopric of Lund, which comprehends the provinces of Scandia and Blekingen : 430 parishes, 24 archdeaconries, and 223 rectories belong to it.

VIII. The bishopric of Borgo ; it comprehends those districts of Finland which form the governments of Savolax and Ky-menegord, and part of the governments of Tavesthus and Nyland : 60 parishes, 6 archdeaconries, and 53 rectories belong to it.

IX. The bishopric of Gottenburg, which comprehends part of Westrogothia, and the provinces of Bohus and Halland : 253 parishes, 9 archdeaconries, and 102 rectories belong to it.

X. The bishopric of Calmar, which comprehends that part of Smoland which forms the government of Calmar, except a few districts belonging to the bishopric of Linköping : 58 parishes, 8 archdeaconries, and 42 rectories belong to it.

XI. The bishopric of Carlstad, which contains

tains Wermeland, Dalia, and Nericia: 110 parishes, 9 archdeaconries, and 39 rectories belong to it.

XII. The bishopric of Hernœsand; it comprehends the greater part of Norland and Swedish Lapland, except the district of Kemi: 128 parishes, 7 archdeaconries, and 55 rectories belong to it.

XIII. The bishopric of Gothland, which comprehends the island of that name: 94 parishes, 3 archdeaconries, and 44 rectories belong to it. The bishop resides at Wisby: the other bishops reside in the cities from which their dioceses take their names.

The bodies which, by order of the king, preside over the management of public affairs, are called colleges. Their names and rank are as follow:

I. The college of war, founded in 1630: it has the superintendence of the land forces, the artillery, fortifications, saltpetre works, ammunition, and army. This college, since the suppression of the council-general of war, has been also a military tribunal. It is divided into five departments; that of the

grand master of the artillery; that of the quarter-master general; that of the commissary of war; the office of civil affairs; and that for the economical affairs of the army. It consists of a president, a grand-master of artillery, a director of fortifications, the chief of the naval army, a colonel, two counsellors, and two commissaries.

II. The college of the admiralty, founded in 1634. It has the superintendence of the maritime forces, and of every thing that relates to the navy. All the coasting pilots are under its inspection. It consists of a president, two vice-admirals, two colonels, and three counsellors.

III. The college of the chancery, founded in 1634. In this college all the ordinances and resolutions which concern the kingdom in general, and cities, public bodies and individuals, are framed and prepared: it is entrusted, likewise, with the care and direction of the posts, the archives, the king's libraries, and printing-offices. It consists of a president, the counsellor of the chancery, the chancellor of the court, the chancellor of justice,

justice, four secretaries of state, the director of the posts, three counsellors, &c.

IV. The college of the chamber, founded in 1634. It watches over the collecting of the public money, and the improvement of cultivation. Those employed as tax-gatherers, &c. must receive their instructions from this college. The office of surveying, which consists of a president, a vice-president, and seven counsellors, forms a part of it.

V. The office of state, founded in 1680. This college is entrusted with the distribution of the public revenues; and those who manage them must address their plans and projects to it. The members who compose it are a president, a vice-president, and two commissaries of state.

VI. The college of mines, which superintends the working of the mines, the management of them, and the administration of justice amongst the miners. It was established upon the same footing as it is at present, in 1649. It consists of a president, a

vice-president, seven counsellors, and three assessors.

VII. The college of commerce, founded in 1637. It has the superintendence of the trade, manufactures, and custom-houses of the kingdom : the office of control, which consists of a president, a vice-president, eight counsellors, and eight assessors, belongs to this college.

VIII. The college of revision of the chamber, founded in 1689. Its destination is, to take care that all suits, depending in the college of the chamber, be terminated ; and that the sentences pronounced are executed : also that the accounts of the crown be inspected, without delay, audited and balanced. It consists of a president, a vice-president, eight counsellors, and eight assessors.

IX. The college of medicine, founded in 1688. It has the inspection of every thing that relates to medicine, throughout the whole kingdom ; and consists of a president, a vice-president, and twelve assessors. The king's first physician is president of it.

All these colleges sit at Stockholm. In  
that

that capital there are also several other bodies, of inferior rank, but equally useful to public administration. The principal are, the commissioners for translating the Bible, the commissioners of laws, the directors general of the custom-houses, the directors of lands and money in mortmain, the commissioners of education, and the directors of the fund established for widows and orphans.

The German provinces have a tribunal, which sits at Wisnar ; a governor, who resides at Stralsund ; and an ecclesiastical superintendent at Greifswald. All affairs are decided in the last instance, by the king's council, composed formerly of senators, but at present of members of the supreme tribunal, assisted by the presidents, and secretaries of state as reporters. In matters of equity, the king has only two votes, and the casting vote when the votes, on each side, are equal.

## CHAP. VII.

## RELIGION.

**I**N the ninth century after the Christian æra, the darkness of ignorance every where prevailed; superstition subjected the minds of men to the yoke of a thousand errors; vain practices were become essential parts of religion; and every thing was done for the service of God, except what he requires. At that epoch, humiliating for humanity, the Swedes embraced Christianity, which was established by Olaus, surnamed the Infant, in the beginning of the eleventh century. When Luther was preaching the reformation in Germany, Gustavus mounted the throne of Sweden. That prince conceived a design of introducing it into his states, and accomplished his end. His subjects yielded to the influence of his superior genius, and adopted, almost imperceptibly, the opinions of the German reformer. After

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the death of Gustavus, dissensions arose in the kingdom. Eric XIV. shewed an inclination for the doctrine of Calvin, and favoured those who promoted it. John III. wished to re-establish the power of the court of Rome; but in 1593, it was resolved in the synod of Upsal, that Lutheranism should, for the future, be the established religion in Sweden.

At the time of the reformation, the minds of men were enlightened enough to be sensible, that abuses had crept into the church; but they were not sufficiently so, to assume that mild and pacific character, which barbarous manners and shameful prejudices had banished from Christianity. Amidst the general fermentation which prevailed at that period, it was doubtless necessary to establish some certain creed, and to admit only one form of worship; but this precaution by no means excluded charity and toleration. The true spirit of the gospel might have been followed, without any restriction, as soon as the work was cemented; and the wisdom of sovereigns, in concert with the clergy,

clergy, might have given rise to that union and concord which now comforts and delights the soul of the philosopher. But it is well known from history, that Christians of different communions, instead of granting reciprocally the same indulgence, in the countries where they were united, refused to each other those privileges which humanity every where solicits for the whole race of mankind.

The Swedes long entertained an aversion to all those who did not acknowledge the confession of Augsbург. During the whole of the last, and a part of the present century, religious toleration was no where established, but in the city of Gottenburg: in all the rest of the kingdom, neither catholics nor protestants were tolerated; for although they were not openly persecuted, they were privately molested and harassed. Such of the clergy as displayed principles of wise moderation, were sure of exciting the displeasure of their brethren. Two divines, Terferus and Mathiæ, were censured, and deposed, for having in their works expressed the laudable

dable desire of seeing different Christian communions united and established under one.

When Louis XIV. revoked the edict of Nantz, the victims of that measure, finding themselves excluded from the rights of citizens, fled to different parts of Europe for protection; the most barren soil could not frighten them: they had tears to water it, and to render it fertile. In the midst of their distresses, they turned their eyes also to Sweden, imagining that their being of the reformed church could not hurt them in a protestant country. Charles XI. who was then on the throne, and who was employed in executing his designs against the nobility, well knowing the influence of the clergy, always took care to consult them on every object of importance. The demand of the French refugees was therefore submitted to their deliberations; and this gave them a happy opportunity of manifesting that spirit of benevolence and charity, which the ministers of the altar ought to hold up, as an example, to the whole world. They ought  
indeed

indeed to have offered a safe port to these unfortunate people, tossed about by the tempest of misfortune, and they might have procured to their country useful and laborious hands; but the clergy, when consulted by Charles, entertained different sentiments. They perhaps dreaded the influence of a religion which breathes nothing but disinterestedness and simplicity: they were also, perhaps, fully persuaded, that men who denied the real presence, and free will; who sent to paradise children that died unbaptized; and who banished images from their churches, could not be admitted, without scandal, into a Lutheran country. However this may be, the French protestants, who requested an asylum in Sweden, were refused; and that kingdom lost a favourable opportunity of causing industry to flourish in its bosom.

By establishing a French Lutheran church at Stockholm, for those who taking shelter in Sweden might be desirous of embracing Lutheranism, Charles thought he had found the means of conciliating two different interests,

terests. This church still subsists; but the Gallico-Lutheran congregation was never numerous.

Under Charles XII. toleration made very little progress. Those peaceful virtues, which engage the affection of mild and gentle souls, were altogether unknown to this obstinate warrior; and a divine of Greifsvald induced him to publish the following edict :

“ If any of the subjects of his Swedish majesty shall change their religion, they shall be banished from the kingdom, and they and their descendants shall be deprived of their right of inheritance.

“ If any one shall introduce into the kingdom persons who teach a religion different from that of the country, he shall be subjected to a fine, and banishment.

“ Foreign ministers shall be allowed the free exercise of religion, only for themselves and families.

“ Strangers of a different religion shall not be allowed to perform divine worship publicly ; their children shall be baptised by  
Lutheran

Lutheran ministers, and educated in the Lutheran religion, under pain of forfeiting every civil privilege."

The ministers, however, of foreign powers could not be prevented from assembling in their chapels, all those of their own religion who were established in Sweden. By these means, two pretty considerable communities were formed, about the beginning of the present century: the one Dutch, under the protection of the Dutch minister, and the other, partly English, partly French, under the protection of the English minister. The Dutch community subsists still, and in the same manner; but the English minister having been recalled in 1741, the other embraced that opportunity of demanding from government, the free exercise of its religion. As it was numerous and flourishing, and as it was extremely serviceable in promoting commerce and manufactures, its request was readily granted; and some time after it erected a church in the capital. The number of French being at this period  
greater

greater than that of the English, it was resolved, that divine service should be performed in the language of the former.

The establishment of this church was that also of toleration in Sweden; knowledge was extended in that country, and the Swedes, who wished to see the useful arts flourish amongst them, readily comprehended of how much importance it was to collect industrious citizens. Mr. Febure, a rich merchant, originally from Saintonge, was admitted to sit in the national assembly, and obtained letters of nobility; and Mr. Boufquet, a gentleman of Languedoc, who had fled before the persecution, attained to the rank of general. One of the generals, who informed him of his appointment, having added, that great opposition had been made to it, and that he had been in danger of losing it on account of his religion, "What!" replied Mr. Boufquet, "was not the same favour granted, the evening before, to a man who had no religion at all?"

About the year 1753, there was a colony of French refugees in the island of Zealand,  
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in Denmark; but being discontented with their situation, they wished to establish themselves somewhere else. Their chief, therefore, who was called la Port, being informed of the taste which the Swedes had for manufactures, proposed, that they should settle in Sweden, and government accepted their offer. This colony, consisting of thirty-five persons, removed to Wadstena in Ostrogothia, where they were permitted to have a church, and a clergyman to perform divine service. Here they carried on business for some time, and instructed several Swedish workmen; but finding afterwards that their condition was not such as they expected, they dispersed.

Sweden tolerated also, about the same period, a sect of pietists, a whimsical kind of people, who, after remaining long in obscurity, made themselves conspicuous all of a sudden. Disgusted with the irregularities which every where prevailed, they resolved to seek some island in the northern seas, where they might be secluded from all communication with the rest of mankind. Unluckily,



luckily, not one of them was acquainted with the management of a vessel, and they had scarcely put to sea when they were sensible of the danger to which they exposed themselves. They then found that it was better to remain among profane mortals, than to perish in the merciless ocean. They however still wished for an island, and at length established themselves on that of Wermdœ, a few miles distant from Stockholm. Their morals are exemplary; they live in the greatest tranquillity; and temperance, peace and good order prevail throughout their whole community.

The celebrated Swedenburg, at first a mineralogist, having become a theosoph, attracted a great number of disciples. A general alarm was spread among the Swedish clergy, and some of the prelates considered it as their duty to examine this new system. It resulted from their examination, that Swedenburg's works, being contrary to the orthodox faith, ought not to be communicated to the public. They however have always been dispersed, and are still read as much as

ever. The partisans of the enlightened doctor increase more and more, and begin to form a schism like other sects.

The Jews, that unfortunate people who wander over the face of the earth, always oppressed, yet always existing, were not admitted into Sweden till the year 1776, when they obtained permission to open synagogues at Stockholm, Gottenburg, Carlscrona and Norkœping. This toleration gave pleasure to the philosopher; but it excited in the merchant quite different sensations. Established, however, under the auspices of reason and policy, it received a solemn sanction at the diet of 1778, and was confirmed by the following decree of the states :

“ Since the free exercise of religion, granted to those who establish themselves in the kingdom, is consistent with that toleration which does honour to humanity, and which is at present introduced into almost all well-regulated states, we are of opinion, that as this toleration may be useful to Sweden, in many respects, it is necessary to adopt it among us, but with such exceptions as prudence,

dence, and the fundamental laws of the kingdom, equally prescribe. Having taken this matter into consideration, we decree, that the free exercise of religion shall be granted in Sweden, under the following conditions :

“ I. That people of a foreign religion, who wish to settle in Sweden, shall not be permitted to hold any office under government.

“ II. That they shall not open public schools, for the purpose of teaching their doctrine.

“ III. That they shall not send missionaries either into the kingdom, or out of it.

“ IV. That they shall not be permitted to found convents, of any sect whatever.

“ V. That the Jews shall open no synagogues but at Stockholm, and a few more of the principal cities of the kingdom, where a watchful eye may be kept over them.

“ VI. That they shall make no public processions, for fear of offending the weak.

“ VII. Such Swedes as abandon their religion, shall be proceeded against according to the laws of the country\*.

\* Banishment, and a loss of all civil privileges, is the punishment prescribed by the law in such cases.

“ This decision having been communicated to the king, his majesty, in his answer to us, declared, that he with satisfaction beheld the care which we had taken to promote the welfare of the public, by pursuing such measures as tended to increase population and industry. His majesty having been pleased to coincide in opinion with us, and to consider our resolution as honourable to humanity, and to a free and enlightened nation, has approved it, such as we formed it, and with the necessary exceptions. His majesty granted his approbation with the more facility, as he is fully convinced of the solidity of the principles upon which our religion is founded, and of the influence it has upon the hearts of all the Swedes. His majesty has been pleased to add to our resolution one article, which is, that the liberty of the press shall not be extended to books designed to defend the principles of other religions, or to combat those of ours.”

In the year 1781, the catholics obtained an explicit permission, to profess their religion publicly, under those restrictions prescribed

scribed by the decree of the states; and in consequence of this permission, the pope sent an apostolical vicar to Sweden. A church had been erected in Sweden also for the Hernhutters. The ideas of count Zinzendorf have been adopted by a number of the Swedes, and they have made many profelytes; but the Hernhutters are a peaceable, industrious and charitable people. This is the essence of religion: we must leave the rest to the decision of our supreme Judge.

Six years ago, there arose another sect in the capital, the founder of which was a mechanic. This second John of Leyden made a great number of profelytes; and his doctrine, though a confused mixture of the absurdities preached by former sectaries of the same kind, was announced with great zeal, before numerous assemblies. As it was thought expedient to prevent the inconveniencies likely to arise from these meetings, which were, for the most part, tumultuous, and always held during the night, an order was issued to forbid them, and those who were

refractory were even punished. From the ashes of martyrs new believers generally arise: the votaries of the new sect increased after this prohibition and severity. It was at length thought proper to publish a comedy, entitled the *New Sect*, and to ridicule the founder of it and his adherents. This piece, spread abroad among the vulgar, was acted in the theatre several times, with the wished-for success: the ridiculous mummery and grimaces of the sect were displayed in their proper light; and the zealots soon lost all their disciples.

In that part of Finland which is opposite to Russia, there are some districts where the people observe the rites of the Greek church. Government sends missionaries into Lapland, and establishes schools in these uncultivated regions, the inhabitants of which are still in a great measure idolaters.

Gustavus I. in order that he might succeed better in introducing the reformation into Sweden, preserved the hierarchy; but he, at the same time, diminished the power and revenues of the prelates. The arch-  
bishop,

bishop, bishops, archdeacons, rectors, and chaplains compose the Swedish clergy. After the reformation the nobility entirely renounced the church : at present they begin to embrace that line, and to consider it of too much importance to be neglected.

## C H A P. VIII.

## CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LAWS.

THE zeal of those worthy and respectable characters, who turn their attention towards the reformation of laws, will always be commended and applauded; but in accomplishing this important object, they must struggle against many obstacles. The prejudices of ignorance, the criminal views of interest, the transports of jealousy, and the indifference of those who are never concerned for the public welfare, will, undoubtedly, always oppose their efforts, however laudable; but their powerful and eloquent language will, sooner or later, prevail: they will banish delusion and tear the mask from their guilty adversaries, while their names will be revered, and their perseverance rewarded by the thanks and benedictions of a grateful people. To silence the voice of deception; to shelter the weak  
and



and innocent from the detestable attacks of fraud and calumny; to protect the poor and defenceless from the fatal influence of the rich and the great; in a word, to render the law the certain, clear, and disinterested safeguard of the honour, fortune, and lives of mankind, is a glory, which good citizens cannot purchase at too dear a rate. When one is employed in the pursuit of these important objects, the soul is warmed and elevated; and those privileged mortals who are permitted to act in that sphere, and to accomplish the noble views of their zeal, are envied whilst they are respected.

The civil and criminal laws of Sweden are more agreeable to the grand principles of reason, justice, and humanity, than those of many other countries.

The Roman law is taught in the universities; but only as an object of erudition, the knowledge of which may be useful to the lawyer. Besides, the obscure, and often unintelligible decrees of Justinian and Theodosius, have no influence over the condition of the Swedes. They are condemned

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or acquitted by laws suited to their government. The latter were not dictated by despotism, amidst the terror and consternation of the people: they are the result of the deliberations of the national assembly.

The origin of the Swedish code is as old as the remotest ages; for it appears by the most authentic monuments, that, in the time of Oden, the nation had a collection of laws solemnly sanctioned. The vassals of the crown, or tributary princes, having acquired too much power, rendered themselves independent; and the result was, that each province had its own laws. The royal power, however, recovering its rights, it became then necessary to collect different codes, and to incorporate them into one. It was found necessary also, to banish every thing that favoured of paganism, and every thing that was improper after the Christian religion had been established in the kingdom. This work was begun, under the reign of Magnus Eriscon, in the fourteenth century; but those who ought to have seconded the monarch, opposed him in the execution of his project:

project: ignorant and interested priests started objections, which acquired weight from the credit they enjoyed; and according to their wishes, their power increased in the midst of those obstacles and embarrassments, which the temporal chiefs met with, when they had not a code of laws clearly and solidly established to support them. The abuses which prevailed grew nevertheless intolerable; complaints were raised on all sides; and Christopher, about the middle of the fifteenth century, finished that work which Magnus had begun. This code was revised under the reign of Charles IX. and under that of Gustavus Adolphus; but it was not yet brought to that perfection which it was susceptible of. Political laws were confounded in it with civil and criminal laws; the equity followed in cities was absolutely separated from that of the country: it was filled with Gothic expressions and obsolete terms, become unintelligible by those revolutions to which the manners and language had been subjected; and the ordinances published during the preceding reigns, were not in-

ferted in it. To remedy these evils, Charles XI. appointed a commission, composed of the ablest lawyers in the kingdom, who began their labour without delay; but the wars of Charles XII. and the disasters which thence arose, having soon after followed, and government being engaged in other designs, the wise and prudent views of Charles XI. were for a long time suspended. When brighter days succeeded these tempests and storms, administration again turned their attention to the commission of laws, and the commissioners were ordered to resume their investigation, and to pursue it without interruption. This work was concluded in 1736, and received the sanction of the states. The new code was published in one volume octavo, and the nation discovered in it that character of perfection, which was wanting in the former; but a wise government never flumbers over so important an object as legislation—a point of public administration which cannot be too often weighed. At the diet of 1778, it was resolved, that the  
national

national code should undergo such alterations, proposed by the king, as might be judged necessary. These alterations appeared in a new edition, published in 1781.

The civil laws, contained in this code, seem to have been sketched out by the hand of wisdom ; they are well suited to local circumstances in every necessary point ; and they have an advantage still more valuable, which is, that their brevity and precision tend greatly to shorten law-suits. When we read the rules given to direct the tribunals in their manner of proceeding, we should be apt to imagine, that chicanery is entirely banished from Sweden ; but this monster, so fatal to the repose of society, is acquainted with stratagems which elude the vigilance of the most enlightened legislator.

The criminal laws, followed by the Swedish tribunals, display a striking character of humanity and justice ; and for this they are indebted principally to the reformation they have undergone, in the present reign. These laws establish an exact proportion  
between

between the crime and the punishment: that of death is not yet entirely abolished; but, in several cases, banishment, whipping, paying a fine, and labouring at the public works, are substituted in its stead. Criminals, condemned to die, are generally beheaded: severer punishments are appointed for those crimes which shock humanity by their atrocity; but of these there are few instances in Sweden. The people in general are peaceable, mild, and tractable. Those accused are never afraid of becoming victims to a fatal precipitation: the judge is obliged to interrogate them with care, to hear them attentively, and to procure every possible information respecting their different cases. Witnesses must take an oath, before they are admitted to give their evidence; and the informer who accuses a person in whose crime he has been an accomplice, does not escape punishment. If nothing appears against the accused but presumptive or imperfect proof, they are discharged, and recover the full enjoyment of all their rights. If they again appear before

fore the same tribunal, the former accusation has no influence to their prejudice. Young women, who have been seduced, are no longer exposed to the infamy of ecclesiastical punishments, when, stifling the voice of nature, they destroy the innocent beings whom they ought to bring into the world, or who are already born. They experience all the severity of the secular arm, but, even then, they are not condemned to lose their lives, until the judge has minutely examined every circumstance that might tend to save them, by extenuating the crime they have committed. During the diet of 1786, much was written upon the punishment due to child-murder; but in the memoirs then published, there appears nothing new; for the subject was before exhausted by the ablest writers of almost every nation in Europe. The Swedish patriots, to whom the discussion of this point was committed, were unanimous in advising the representatives of the nation, to continue the punishment of death; and they proved, that, notwithstanding the mitigations admitted  
by

by the preceding diet, the number of child-murders had not decreased so sensibly as had been expected. The clergy even insisted, that the ecclesiastical thunder should be re-established; alleging, that the indulgence shewn to mothers guilty of this crime, tended to destroy purity of manners, without being of any real advantage to the state: their demand therefore was not granted. His present majesty, Gustavus the Third, abolished torture, in the beginning of his reign. This barbarous and fatal practice, which often exposes innocence, and does not always discover guilt, had been employed, but as an abuse: the states never admitted it into the criminal code, by any decree made in its favour.

When Gustavus Adolphus mounted the throne, Sweden was not destitute of laws; but the execution of them was slow, frequently interrupted, and often ineffectual. Great inconveniences thence arose: the administration of justice varied according to events and circumstances, and the decrees of justice neither protected the innocent;  
nor



nor intimidated the guilty with sufficient energy. Gustavus, foreseeing the consequences which were likely to ensue from such enormous abuses, undertook to remedy them. At his command tribunals arose, and upright, active, and enlightened men were appointed to administer justice in them. The nobility and clergy, jealous of their prerogatives, and apprehensive that they should lose them by the effects of an institution which subjected them to exact and regular proceedings, found fault with the king's conduct, while the queen dowager coincided with them, and seconded their views. Gustavus, however, did not suffer himself to be deterred from doing what he considered to be his duty, and, to silence the malecontents, he submitted, in an affair which concerned himself, to the decision of one of the royal courts at Stockholm. The subject of dispute was the pretensions of a gentleman who claimed an estate, supposed to be a part of the royal domains: the cause was tried, sentence was pronounced in favour of the gentleman,

and the monarch, who was present in court, heard the decree of the judges with a moderation that was sufficient to disconcert his antagonists. He even honoured with praises those ministers of the law who had paid more respect to the rights of justice than to royal majesty. Gustavus undoubtedly shewed himself great upon this occasion; nor did he appear in a nobler point of view at the battles of Leipfick and of Lutzem, where victory crowned him with laurels. It is more honourable to protect men from the attacks of fraud and injustice, than to terrify them by the thunders of war.

A territorial judge, assisted by twelve peasants, holds the assizes every three years in each bailiwick; and besides these, there are seneschals, who sit in their proper districts once a year. Cities have tribunals composed of burgo-masters and syndics. The royal courts are superior tribunals, to which an appeal may be carried from any of these before mentioned: they confirm all sentences of death, and they alone have a right to judge the nobility.

Parties

Parties who consider themselves aggrieved may, in cases where the law permits, address the king, and request the proceedings against them to be revised.

Judges must strictly follow the spirit of the laws, and they are forbidden, under pain of fine and dismissal, to interpret them as interest or their passions may dictate. If, by such a perversion, they deprive any citizen of his honour or life, they are subjected to the same sentence which they pronounced against him. Established custom may serve them as a guide; but only in cases respecting which the code is entirely silent. The chancellor of the law is invested with the right of watching over the conduct of the judges, and of prosecuting them if they act contrary to the duties of their office: it is this magistrate also who carries to the foot of the throne the memorials of those who complain of not having obtained due justice. Before the reign of Charles XI. there was in Sweden a grand justiciary of the kingdom, who was the

chief of all the tribunals, and presided over the administration of justice : his office was the first in the state ; he appointed to several employments of judicature, and on some occasions judged in the last instance. The present sovereign has established this dignity ; but with such restrictions as were necessary for the support of the royal authority.

On the opening of the tribunals, the judges assist at divine service, and the minister at the altar reminds them, in a solemn manner, of the duties which they have to discharge. This custom, adopted in some other countries, is respectable, and wisely established ; for what human judge is there who, when prostrated before the eternal Judge, in his holy temple, where every thing traces out to his imagination the picture of virtue, will not experience a salutary emotion, and be filled with that ardent zeal which ought to animate him in the exercise of his important functions ? But there are some perverse hearts whom nothing

thing can affect, and who are insensible to the sublimest motives and the most powerful incitements.

If it happens that a person of illustrious birth, or a whole body, is guilty of any offence against the king, the kingdom, or the crown, and if this offence cannot be tried by any of the ordinary tribunals, a tribunal of the kingdom is then established, in which the king presides, and in which the most distinguished personages of the state have a right to sit. The chancellor of justice is advocate in behalf of the public, and the oldest of the secretaries of revision holds the book of precedents: while sentence is pronounced the doors are always open.

During the diets which preceded the revolution in 1772, the states sometimes appointed commissioners, who were empowered to act as judges. The strongest party prevailed in such trials as came before them, and people condemned at one diet were acquitted at another. These political inquisitions have however been abolished with the inquisition which gave rise to them; but they

are still remembered, in order to shew how much the effects of anarchy resemble those of despotism. The public prisons are a disgusting spectacle in many of the countries of Europe. On viewing those of Sweden, one readily perceives the character of a government that listens to the voice of humanity, and distinguishes mankind from brutes. Several very salutary alterations might still be made in these prisons ; but it is a great deal, that those who see them find more reason to lament the crimes of the persons they contain, than the severity of the treatment which these victims of corruption experience while they wait with anxiety for their sentence.

## C H A P. IX.

## MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS.

**L**AWS terminate the quarrels of individuals; battles put an end to those of princes. In every state, therefore, armies, fleets, arsenals, and fortresses are necessary. Charles XI. when he mounted the throne, having deprived the nobles of those crown lands which his predecessors had granted them, he appropriated the greater part of this acquisition for the support of the army, and finished the grand work of cantoning the troops, which had been begun under the reign of Charles IX.

The crown lands, destined for the support of the foldiers, are farmed out to individuals, who are bound to raise and maintain, at their own expence, a dragoon or a foot foldier. The land which furnishes a dragoon with his horse is named *rustboll*; and several portions of land united to fur-

nish a foot soldier are called *rote*: several are necessary, because they are much smaller than those which are obliged to raise the cavalry. The soldier receives from the farmer a house surrounded by a piece of ground; this is what is called *boftelle*: he receives also a certain quantity of provisions, a sum of money, and a suit of clothes made of coarse cloth, which is renewed every three years. He is not obliged to perform any labour; and if the farmer wishes to employ him, he must pay him separate wages. Military men, above the rank of a common soldier, from a serjeant to a colonel, are maintained in a different manner: government gives them a house, or *boftelle*, with a piece of ground of a certain extent; sets apart lands for their use, the farmers of which are obliged to supply them with provisions and forage, and they have also an appointment in money, but it is exceedingly small. To complete the maintainance of the army, the state furnishes the common soldier with an uniform, which he wears at reviews and on some other occasions: it provides



provides him also with arms, and in time of war allows him pay extraordinary.

The troops, thus divided, assemble in bodies, more or less frequently according to circumstances ; but they are exercised at fixed periods. They constitute the real military force of the kingdom, and are in number as follows :

Twenty-three regiments of infantry	—	24,000
Eight regiments of cavalry, comprehending the standard of the nobility	— — —	7,400
Five bodies of dragoons	— —	3,400
		<hr/>
		34,800

The establishment formed by Charles XI. confirmed by his successors, and sanctioned by the states, is in some respects advantageous, and in others not. The national army of Sweden will with difficulty acquire that skill in military exercises, and be accustomed to that routine of tactics, and that rigid and exact discipline, which distinguish the regular troops of other countries. As often as it marches against the enemy it will leave a vacuum in the kingdom fatal  
to

to agriculture; but it saves considerable sums to the state. In the time of peace it is of real utility; and it must be susceptible of that fire of patriotism which can never warm the breast of the mercenary who traffics in blood.—The Swedish soldier is a citizen, who braves dangers to defend that country in which he has left a wife, children, and a habitation dear to his heart.

Besides this national army, Sweden has always a body of troops raised and maintained on the footing of foreigners. Their number is as follows:

Nine regiments of infantry	—	—	9,000
Two regiments of cavalry	—	—	800
Artillery	—	—	2,900
			<hr/>
			12,700

The care of the fortresses is committed to a body of engineers. Gottenburg, Warberg, and Bohus, serve as a barrier towards Norway; towards the Sound, in Scandia, there are Malmæ, Christianstad and Landskrona. The fortress of Calmar, in Smoland, was of importance when the province in which it is situated formed the limits of the kingdom

dom towards the south; at present it may be useful as a place of arms. Lovisa, formerly Degerby, and Sweaburg, are the principal bulwarks of Finland: the works of Sweaburg have cost considerable sums; they consist of several rocks, forming so many fortresses rising from the sea, and must have been constructed with great labour, and by overcoming the resistance of nature. Waxholm and Fredericzburg defend the port of Stockholm, and can prevent ships of the line from advancing farther; but galleys, or other flat-bottomed vessels, might find passages which it would be difficult to dispute with them. There are arsenals at Stockholm, Jönköping, and in all the fortresses of the kingdom. That of Stockholm contains a great number of trophies taken from the enemies of the kingdom, at those periods when the Swedes fought nothing but battle, and never quitted the field except when crowned with the laurels of victory. Several pieces of the armour of the conqueror of Leipzig are also preserved here, and that of the hero of Narva. In  
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the hat worn by Charles XII. at Fredericshall, the hole made by that fatal ball, which in a moment overturned all his vast projects, is still to be seen. The days of the Swedish monarch are said to have been shortened by the hand of a traitor, and several writers have adopted this opinion. When Charles beheld, at Lutzem, the spot where Gustavus Adolphus was killed, "I have endeavoured," says he, "to live like him, and perhaps God will grant me such a death." He indeed died in the same manner, and, what is more, his death is become, like that of Gustavus Adolphus, one of those historical problems which will perhaps never be resolved.

The situation of Sweden renders it absolutely necessary for it to maintain a navy. The fleet was created by Gustavus I. and increased considerably under Eric XIV. Under the following reigns it was much neglected, and began to decline; but it was renewed by Charles XI. and when his successor made a descent into Denmark, it consisted of thirty-eight ships of the line well equipped.

equipped. When fortune deserted the Swedish hero, it decreased, and was even almost entirely ruined. After that unhappy epoch, government sometimes turned their thoughts towards it, but never with any success. Gustavus III. however, has bestowed the utmost attention on this important object; and the Swedish navy is indebted to him for the flourishing state in which it has been for some years past. Great abuses prevailed in the management of it, and proper discipline was not kept up; but a reformation has been brought about in both these departments, by making better arrangements, and exercising the men oftener. As the greater part of the vessels were old and wormeaten, they have been carefully inspected, and those unfit for service have been replaced by new ones constructed according to the best principles of naval architecture. Twenty-four ships of the line, twelve frigates, and a suitable number of prames, brigantines, and chaloups, compose the Swedish navy. Vessels of the first rate carry seventy guns, the rest sixty, and the greater part of the frigates forty.

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The principal station of this fleet is the harbour of Carlscrona, in Blekingen : there are also a few frigates in the port of Gottenburg. Carlscrona, at present, is a pretty large town : amongst its public establishments, worthy of attention, is the arsenal, equally capacious and well furnished with stores of every kind. This place is distinguished also by several of those grand works which display the powers of genius and do honour to governments. An immense rock, placed by nature at the entrance of the harbour, and hollowed out by excessive labour, under the direction of Polhem, serves as a dock for such vessels as require to be careened. When the basin is exhausted of water by means of chain pumps, the vessel is conveyed into it through sluices ; and when the work is completed, the basin is again filled by other pumps ; the sluices are then opened, and the vessel is carried back into the harbour. For some years past, workmen have been employed in constructing a vast enclosure, in which ships may be laid up perfectly dry. Some engineers, however, are not fully convinced of the utility

utility of this plan : experiments made with great care seem to prove that it will not be so advantageous as was expected.

The coasts of the Baltic are so filled with islands and rocks, that ships of the line cannot navigate them. About the middle of this century, a zealous citizen, general Ehrensværd, proposed to government to form a fleet of flat-bottomed vessels, which might sail on these shores with safety, and serve for disembarking troops. This plan was at first highly approved ; but the spirit of party having represented it under unfavourable colours, it was rejected : it was however afterwards resumed, and carried into execution. This fleet, called also the army fleet, on account of its utility for transportation, is divided between Stockholm and Sweaburg, and consists of about sixty flat-bottomed vessels. Some of them are real galleys : the rest have the name of *touroma*, and are constructed upon principles known to very few.

Sweden procures its sailors from the maritime provinces, and maintains them upon  
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the same footing as the national land forces; their number lately has been increased to 15,000. The greater part of the officers had an opportunity of being initiated into nautical knowledge during the American war: they served with much honour in the French, English, and Dutch fleets, and the experience they acquired may be of the greatest benefit to their country. By a very wise regulation, officers of the royal navy are allowed to take the command of trading vessels.

A multitude of objects are necessary for the construction and equipment of a ship of war. Sweden supplies itself with beams, masts, pitch and tar; but it is obliged to procure hemp and ash plank from the neighbouring countries.

Two men of superior merit, admiral Trolle, and rear-admiral Chapman, with a laudable zeal, seconded the views of the king in reforming the navy. The first was thoroughly acquainted with its economy and discipline; but a premature death deprived Sweden of this respectable patriot.

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The second, Mr. Chapman, superintended, and still superintends, the building of ships of war; he resided a long time in England, and applied there, with equal ardour and success, to the study of naval architecture. He has published some works which have been translated into different languages.

The soldier who has served his country is entitled to support when he is no longer in a condition to bear arms. Gustavus Adolphus appropriated the possessions of the ancient convent of Vadstena for the maintenance of the land army invalids, and even assigned them the convent as a habitation. Government, however, has lately changed this institution; the invalids, instead of being lodged and boarded in the hospital, receive yearly a certain sum of money.

The body of officers have established a fund, called the fund of army pensions, the members of which contribute six per cent. of their pay, and at the end of thirty years they enjoy their pay entire. There is also a fund for decayed sailors, which is formed by annual contributions, and the levying

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of certain duties granted to them by the crown.

Two field marshals, several generals and lieutenant generals, &c. are at the head of the land forces. A grand admiral, an admiral, several vice and rear admirals, &c. preside over the navy.

The drabans, or body guards, the regiment of guards, and the light horse, form the king's household, of which he himself is the chief. The drabans are divided into four companies, each composed of a captain lieutenant, two corporals, two vice corporals, and twenty-five common drabans, who have the rank of cornet. This body are always near the king's person, and accompany him in his journeys. The regiment of guards, which consists of 1800 men, is in garrison at Stockholm, and does duty at the castle, as well as at several other parts of the capital. The light horse, in number 200, mount guard at the castle, and attend the king upon certain occasions.

The Swedes carried on war with the  
most

most brilliant successes during the whole of the preceding century. Under Gustavus Adolphus and his generals, Charles Gustavus, and Charles XII. they acquired laurels without number, and filled the Germans, the Danes, the Poles, and the Russians, with terror and admiration; but how happens it, that, in the present century, they have in vain attempted, during two wars, to support their ancient glory? Tactics have made a progress, which has not been sufficiently followed in Sweden, amidst the troubles of anarchy and the cares necessary in an administration. The best disciplined army cannot be successful when it depends upon an uncertain council wavering between two opposite opinions, when the orders given contradict each other, and when the spirit of party fetters the valour of its commanders.

## C H A P. X.

## ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

A DESIRE of encouraging and rewarding merit has given rise to these decorations, at present so various and numerous. Those on whom they are bestowed ought to have distinguished themselves by grand achievements, signal services, and eminent virtues ; but do they not often adorn those who are in nothing superior to others, but by the advantages of birth, the gifts of fortune, or their talents for intrigue ? There is scarcely any country in which we do not find crosses, ribbands, and other insignia of the like kind. These marks of distinction exist also in Sweden, which has four orders of knighthood.

The first is the order of the Seraphim, the origin of which is said to be as old as Magnus Ladulos, and several learned Swedes  
have

have exercised their erudition on this point of history. It is however certain that it was king Frederic who, in 1748, gave this order its present form, and framed the statutes of it. This order is destined for kings, princes, and such citizens as, by rendering extraordinary services to their country, have risen to the first offices of state. It must consist of twenty-four national knights, and eight foreigners; but the number of the latter may be dispensed with in favour of any prince who is related or allied to the royal family of Sweden. The oldest knights, who are natives, always enjoy a pension of an hundred rix-dollars. This order is interesting even to the philosopher and the friend of mankind, as it has the direction of all the hospitals in the kingdom. The badge is a cross enamelled white, in the middle of which there is an azure globe with the arms of Sweden, and the device J. H. S. The globe is surrounded by the heads of four golden seraphims with their wings displayed, and four patriarchal crosses. This badge is affixed

to the coat, on the left side of the breast, and is embroidered in silver. The ribband from which the cross is suspended is blue, variegated with shades of the same colour, and is worn from right to left.

The institution of the order of the Sword is considered also as of very great antiquity. It was revived likewise by Frederic in 1748, and is destined for those only who distinguish themselves in war, that art so fatal to humanity, but unfortunately too necessary. People are therefore rewarded, distinguished, honoured, and, according to the present state of things, ought to be so, for shewing superior skill in destroying their fellow-creatures.

The number of knights to be admitted into this order is not fixed by the statutes: there are plain knights, commanders, and grand-crosses. The badge of the order is a St. Andrew's cross enamelled white, with an azure globe in the middle, the three crowns of Sweden, and a sword in pale. On the points of the cross there are also crowns and swords. The reverse is distinguished

tinguished by a sword in pale, placed upon a globe instead of three crowns, and having over it a crown of laurel: on the exergue are the following words, *pro patriâ*. Plain knights wear a cross, suspended from a button-hole of their coat by a yellow ribband with blue borders; the black ribband is also yellow with blue borders, and is worn from right to left. Grand-crosses have a star embroidered on the left side of their coat.

When Frederic revived the preceding two orders, he created a third, which is that of the Polar Star. “ We intend it,” says he in his regulations, “ for those who, by civil  
“ virtues, abilities, and establishments useful  
“ to the state, have rendered themselves celebrated and worthy of particular honour.  
“ We have resolved to distinguish it by  
“ the name of the polar star, to point out  
“ to those knights who are decorated with  
“ it, that, as this star never sets, it will be  
“ their duty to endeavour, each in their different spheres, not to suffer the glory of  
“ the Swedish name to decline, or to lose  
“ that lustre which it has acquired in a long  
“ series of ages.”

The number of those to be admitted into this order is arbitrary : they are either plain knights or commanders. The badge of the order is a Greek cross enamelled white, having four crowns on its points, and above it a royal crown. In the middle is an azure globe, with a white polar star of five points, and this motto: *nescit occasum*. Plain knights wear the cross, suspended from a button-hole of their coat by a black ribband ; commanders wear it on their breast affixed to a broad black ribband, and the star of the order embroidered in silver on the left side of their coat. The celebrated Haller was a knight of the Polar Star, and indeed it must be allowed that he did honour to the order. The king declared, some years ago, that for the future six ribbands and six lesser crosses should be distributed among the clergy. This institution will be respectable, and produce the happiest effects, if the cross decorate the pastor who has laboured in diffusing abroad principles of toleration and charity ; who, abstaining from politics and intrigue, has thought only of discharging the duties of his office ; who has directed youth to the  
paths



paths of wisdom, comforted old age on the brink of the grave, and preserved concord and peace in families.

His present majesty, soon after his accession to the throne, instituted the order of Vasa. "Convinced," says he, "that there  
"is no better encouragement to noble souls,  
"and no greater reward than glory and  
"public testimony paid to eminent qualities, we have thought proper to institute, on the occasion of our coronation,  
"an order solely destined for people who  
"shall give, or have already given, in our  
"kingdom, striking proofs of the talents  
"and knowledge requisite in the arts of agriculture, mining, and commerce. It is our  
"desire that this order bear the name of  
"Vasa, on the one hand, in memory of the  
"great kings our ancestors and predecessors, who derived their origin from the  
"illustrious family of Vasa, and who so  
"gloriously employed themselves in promoting agriculture and industry; and on  
"the other, because that family bear in their  
"arms a sheaf of corn, the most significant  
"emblem

“ emblem of agriculture, which, as the mo-  
“ ther of every other art, we wish, above  
“ all things, to encourage by the institution  
“ of a new order.” The badge of this or-  
der is a sheaf of corn surrounded by a gol-  
den ribband, with this inscription: *Gusta-  
vus III. founder.* Plain knights wear this  
badge, suspended from the neck by a green  
ribband variegated with shades of the same  
colour. Commanders are decorated with  
the same badge affixed to a broad green rib-  
band, which they wear from right to left.  
Grand-crosses, besides these decorations, have  
a silver star of eight points, embroidered on  
the left side of their coat.

The king is the chief and grand master of  
these four orders: princes of the blood are  
born knights. The chapter is held on the  
Monday before Advent, and on the 28th of  
April.

## CHAP. XI.

REVENUES AND EXPENCES OF THE  
CROWN.

**W**ERE the amount of the revenues of states to be determined by their geographical extent, Sweden would be one of the richest in Europe; but this is not the case: a country may be very extensive without having great resources, and of this Sweden affords a convincing proof.

The public revenues of Sweden are of two kinds: one fixed and permanent, and the other granted for a time by the representatives of the nation. The fixed revenues arise principally from the crown lands, a poll-tax\*, the tythe of corn, taxes imposed on lands, the customs, the excise, post duties, and stamps on paper. Some of these im-

\* The poll-tax was established in the year 1627, and is imposed on all persons from the age of fifteen to that of sixty-three; but the rate varies in different provinces.

posts are levied in money, and others in kind: the greater part of them are collected at the rate established in 1696, though, since that period, cultivation, money, and the price of provisions, have undergone considerable changes. The nobility have been exempted from the poll-tax; but, in return, they renounced the privilege which they before enjoyed of being free from excise and custom-house dues. Peasants who farm lands belonging to the nobility pay to government, in fixed taxes, only half of what is paid by those who farm the lands of the crown.

When the wants of the public are increased by particular circumstances, the states assemble and grant certain subsidies for a time specified. This resource was never employed so frequently as under the reign of Gustavus Adolphus. That prince was often under the necessity of having recourse to the generosity of the nation, in order to be enabled to execute his grand enterprises, and the greater part of these impositions, though granted for a time, have now become fixed and permanent. In the  
year

year 1786 the states took into deliberation the subsidy granted in 1772, and decreed that it should be continued for four years, deducting one per cent. from the principal. "In forming this resolution," say the states in their decree, "agreeably to the most valuable privilege granted to us by the laws, our intention was not to diminish the resources of government, but to give the poorest part of those who pay taxes the hopes of being one day freed from their burthen." On the close of the diet, the king declared, that he would shorten, by one year, the period which the states had agreed on.

These extraordinary impositions are either real or personal: the profits of offices, with the produce of agriculture, industry, and commerce, contribute principally to form the sum granted by the national assembly. The manner of levying it is as follows: in cities, the magistrate appoints a certain number of the principal citizens, who bind themselves by oath to tax the inhabitants, according to registers given them by the commissaries

faries of the district. In the country, the governor of the province, in concert with the territorial judge, chooses three persons among the nobility, clergy, and peasants, who tax the different bailiwicks to which they belong; and if these officers cannot agree, the decision of their dispute is referred to their constituents. Each bailiwick has a receiver, who, assisted by a clerk, collects the taxes both regular and extraordinary, and transmits them to the treasurer of the crown in the province, and by him they are transmitted to the general treasury of the empire.

The accounts are put into the hands of the territorial judge, who examines them, marks down his observations, and sends them to the office of revision belonging to the province. From thence they are transmitted to the college of the chamber, and in the last place they undergo another examination in the college of revision. The receiver who is convicted of neglect, or misconduct, is condemned to pay a fine of twelve per cent.; if insolvable he is subjected to corporal punishment. The person who detects

detects the culprit receives a fourth part of the sum which ought to have been paid to government, and his name is concealed ; but as it is difficult to revise a multitude of very thick volumes, the guilty often escape.

In recovering the debts due to government, the principles of wisdom and humanity are consulted. The farmer is not exposed to those oppressive law-suits which in other countries call forth his tears and his sighs : he may lay his complaints at the foot of the throne, and obtain indulgence for a certain time. It indeed sometimes happens that there are collectors who, abusing their authority, carry desolation into the cottage of the peasant. In every country there are barbarous men, who divest themselves of the sentiments of nature, and who seem born only for the misfortune of their fellow-creatures ; but such extortioners act contrary to the spirit of the Swedish government.

There are some branches of the public revenue, created of late years, which are more or less productive according to circumstances. A royal lottery has been established

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at Stockholm, and an office of discount: the monopoly of distilled liquors, which subsisted for some years, has been abolished; but the crown has reserved to itself an indemnification by that of corn. It is pretended that the former monopoly was not so profitable as the authors of the plan expected.

Reckoning up all the public revenues of Sweden, the sum, before the last diet, was found to amount to about two millions of rix-dollars\*. Pomerania and the rest of the German possessions absorb almost what they pay to the state by the expences which they occasion. The whole of the revenues of Sweden will appear less disproportioned to those of the other countries of Europe, if we observe that the lands taken from the nobility by Charles XI. pay, in a great measure, the expences of the national army, and those even of several civil employments. But, notwithstanding this saving, government has

\* A Swedish rix-dollar is about four shillings and sixpence sterling. The revenue therefore at that rate amounted to 450,000 l.



always found it very difficult to provide for the wants of the public, and its expences have often exceeded the revenue. The subsidies of France have not been sufficient to fill up this vacuum; and it has been found necessary to have recourse to loans, both in the kingdom and from foreign nations.

The amount of the debt was however not known, nor was there any enquiry made concerning this important object, at the assembly of the states in 1786. On this account it was discussed very minutely, and with great attention, during the diet of 1789, which was remarkable in so many respects. The king referred to the secret committee a statement of the debts of the crown: they were found to amount to 21,300,000 rix-dollars, and the security of the representatives of the nation was required for this sum, as well as for those loans which the expences of the war had rendered necessary. The clergy, the citizens, and the peasants, readily complied with the wishes of the court; and, though the nobility made at first some opposition, they at length yielded.

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Another difficulty now arose: the secret committee having agreed that government would have occasion for eighty-two tons of gold, or 1,400,000 rix-dollars, both to pay the interest of the debt now become national by the security of the states, and to defray temporary expences, the three inferior orders approved the contents of the report transmitted to them by the committee; but the nobility were not of their opinion, and this produced fresh debates in their chamber. After considerable opposition, the greater part at length agreed to the resolution of the other orders, who granted the subsidies until a new diet should be held; but the nobility being desirous of fixing a certain period, they maintained, that on any other terms extraordinary concessions would become permanent imposts, or would at least continue till it should please his majesty to convoke the states. In order to find out some means of conciliation, the clergy proposed, that in case the king should not think proper to convoke the states, a certain number of persons might assemble  
every

every three years, and form a deputation authorized to prolong their consent to the subsidies, should they find it still necessary, but without power either to increase them or grant new ones. The nobility, not approving this proposition of the clergy, persisted in their former opinion, and demanded that a fixed term should be agreed on.

The king then published a declaration, setting forth, that the equestrian order encroached on the royal prerogatives, by endeavouring to compel his majesty to convoke the states at the term fixed for the cessation of the subsidies, and that it was of the utmost importance, considering the situation of the kingdom, that its enemies should be ignorant of the epoch when the representatives of the nation were to be again assembled. The nobility however were inflexible. To put an end to this opposition the king resolved to go in person to the hall of the nobility. The other orders being informed of his majesty's intention, it was soon spread abroad in public, and excited such sensations as were suited to the impor-

tance of the object, while the people ran from all quarters of the city, and surrounded the nobility's hotel.

The presence of his majesty did not at first produce that effect which had been expected; but he at length triumphed over every obstacle, and the nobility acquiesced.

An office, established under the name of the office of the states of the kingdom, was appointed to take the management of the new revenues, and of all sums that were before carried to the ancient treasury. This office consists of a certain number of deputies from the four orders.

Thus it appears that the case is the same in all countries. The burden of impositions every where increases instead of being diminished. Let it however be equally divided; let it not fall principally on the people; let artists and workmen be spared, whose labours are so fatiguing, who continually struggle against want, and who often moisten with briny tears the morsel of bread which they eat. Let it be laid upon the superfluities of the great and the rich; and let the necessities

faries of the poor and inferior classes be respected. Such, we are told, are the principles of those who in Sweden preside over the levying of the new taxes.

## CHAP. XII.

## POPULATION.

**I**F the North formerly was favourable to the propagation of the human species, it is so no longer. All the states which compose these vast regions find a want of inhabitants highly prejudicial to their prosperity; and the population of Sweden, Denmark, and Russia, would be found very small, if compared with that of France, Germany, Swisserland, and Holland.

From those ages of which we can procure any certain accounts by authentic monuments, Sweden was always badly peopled; and the long and bloody wars it had to support, during the two centuries preceding this, increased that scarcity of hands which appears to be natural to it. In this respect, Charles XII. gave it the most fatal blow: to furnish his ambition with the means of carrying on sieges, and fighting battles, it  
was

was found necessary to take the artist from his shop, and the labourer from his cottage. At the death of the Scandinavian Alexander, there were not in the whole kingdom a million of inhabitants fit for labour; workmen of every kind were wanting, and the plough was directed by the feeble hands of women, children, and old men. The memory of Charles XII. has not however faded; the Swedes still venerate and mention with respect the name of that hero, whose warlike madness was so fatal to the state: but this is not surprising; qualities so striking as those which Charles possessed cause men to forget their wrongs, and captivate the multitude. The Swedes are born brave, and the glory of arms has always made the liveliest impressions on their hearts.

Times however changed, and martial enthusiasm was checked by necessity. Under the following reigns, those useful labours which flourish in the shade of peace were encouraged, and strangers invited to the country were allowed every civil and religious privilege, in order to induce them to

fettle in it. Population soon shewed the good effects of these wise measures; and it would have increased, in a manner still more sensible, had not the spirit of party, the unhappy consequence of a constitution badly organized, again kindled up the flames of war. That of Finland cost more than 50,000 men, besides a considerable district of the country which had been the theatre of it. That of Pomerania, though in appearance less dangerous, was really more fatal; for long and fatiguing marches, want of provisions, and infectious disorders, occasioned as much ravage among the troops as all the battles that had been fought. During the period which succeeded these fatal epochs, government neglected nothing that could tend to advance the progress of population: the severity of the penal laws was mitigated by wisdom and humanity; religious toleration obtained the sanction of the diet; the college of medicine received new instructions, better suited to the state of society at that time; regular bred physicians were sent into the different provinces, to



take care of the poor who were sick, and to prevent the people from becoming victims to the ignorance of quackery; and inoculation, long rejected by the multitude, too tenacious of their prejudices, even when their own interests are concerned, overcame every obstacle, and now diffuses abroad without restraint its beneficent effects; while hospitals, enlarged and extended, have been subjected to much better regulations.

The last object, the importance of which is so striking, above all engaged the attention of the capital. The oldest establishment of this kind at Stockholm is the hospital of Danviken, a small district situated at the entrance of the city, on the south. It was founded by Gustavus I. when convents were abolished: his successors did not neglect it; and several citizens, feeling for the misfortunes of their brethren, increased its revenues by donations and legacies. This hospital has lately been divided into three different houses. The first is destined for the poor and infirm, in number generally about two hundred; the second is set apart  
for

for fools and maniacs, who amount to fifty or sixty; and the third receives the same number of patients of both sexes afflicted with the venereal disorder. In the beginning of this century, an individual made an endowment of a spacious edifice, and a considerable fund for the purpose of establishing an hospital: this foundation has greatly increased by annual contributions, and affords relief, at present, to upwards of three hundred persons, either in the hospital or as out-patients. In 1752 government opened a *Hotel-Dieu*, called in Sweden the Royal Lazaretto. In this building there is room for an hundred patients, some of whom pay for their cure, and others receive it gratis: there is never here more than one patient in a bed. Besides these, each parish in Stockholm has its hospital; but their resources are very confined. Two respectable asylums contain each about twenty or thirty widows. There are also two hospitals for orphans and poor children, one of which was founded by the city, and the other by the Free Masons. The children remain  
there

there till a certain age, after which they are sent out to board in the neighbouring villages. Two lying-in hospitals, for delivering women gratis, which have been successively established, one by the zeal of the society *pro patriâ*, and the other by the care of government, do no less honour to the capital of Sweden. These may be considered as so many seminaries for nurses; as schools for medical students, who wish to be acquainted with a branch of their profession of the highest importance to humanity; as asylums to poor and unhappy mothers, who cannot procure that assistance which they have occasion for; and as places of shelter, where young women, who have fallen victims to seduction, may conceal their misfortune, and be preserved, by that consoling idea, from those crimes which the too powerful dread of being exposed to shame and neglect might induce them to commit. In one of these establishments 113 children were born between 1775, the period of its foundation, and the year 1778. People are inoculated, free of any expence, in a house  
which

which the college of medicine has ordered to be fitted up for that purpose. This college was founded under Charles XI.: all the physicians of the kingdom belong to it; but it is more particularly composed of a president and several assistants. Anatomy and midwifery are taught publicly by two professors under its inspection: the fund which supports it arises from a duty on wine, coffee, and spirituous liquors. A company of surgeons, composed of a president and several assistants, has been established also for some years at Stockholm: it has the inspection of all the surgeons in the country.

In order to ascertain the exact state of the population of the kingdom, the states, in 1741, created a remarkable institution, highly worthy of being imitated in every other country. This institution, called *the commission of registers*, is intrusted with the care of collecting and comparing all the registers, of marriages, births, and deaths, in Sweden; it corresponds with every town and parish, and distributes to the magistrates

trates and clergy forms of registers divided into several tables. The first table contains births, deaths, and marriages in general; the second deaths, and the third the sum total of the inhabitants. The two first tables are accompanied with the number of legitimate and illegitimate children; that of double or triple births, and that of divorces. To these are also added the ages of those women who are delivered; the ages of those who marry; the sex and age of those who die; the causes of their death; the diseases prevalent at each season, &c. &c.

Notwithstanding all the efforts of government to advance the progress of population, Sweden is still far from being peopled in proportion to its extent. There were reckoned to be

In 1751	-	2,229,661	} Souls.
1757	-	2,307,599	
1760	-	2,383,113	
1763	-	2,466,568	
1766	-	2,502,363	
1769	-	2,571,800	
1772	-	2,584,261	

Mr.

Mr. Wargentin having found, by the increase in eight dioceses, that between 1775 and 1780 the number of inhabitants had been augmented 89,000, thence concluded, in a Memoir presented to the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, that the fourteen dioceses which compose the kingdom had gained an increase of 200,000 souls from 1772 to 1782 ; and that the number of inhabitants, at the latter period, might be considered as amounting to nearly three millions, including 100,400 in the German possessions. Population is sufficiently numerous in the southern provinces ; but it decreases in proportion as we advance northwards : two or three hundred persons often occupy a square league. Some of the northern provinces have however increased considerably in population of late years. Norland has experienced a happy revolution in some of its districts : in the year 1729 there were in all Finland only 142,606 inhabitants ; but at present there are above 600,000. But who will ever cultivate Lapland ? When will these barren regions, which Nature hath treated with  
all

all the severity of a step-mother, be peopled? Swedish Lapland, which in extent exceeds many considerable states, contains no more than 7000 souls.

A Swedish author, who calculated the most general division of the inhabitants of Sweden for the year 1760, made them amount, at that period, to 2,383,113, and deducting those incapable, either on account of their age or their condition, to contribute to the advancement of industry, there remained but 1,800,000 fit for those labours which are the basis of public prosperity. Since that epoch population has made considerable progress; but the proportion is still the same. In a Memoir written by Mr. Wargentín, on the proportion of the inhabitants of towns to those in the country, the author assigns six or seven persons to each family in towns. In all those of the kingdom, there were

In 1751	=	34,585	} Families.
1772	=	42,070	

These numbers multiplied by  $6\frac{1}{2}$  give for

1751—224,801 } inhabitants in cities.  
 1772—273,455 }

If we subtract these results from the total of the population of the above years, there will remain for

1751 - 1,990,837 } inhabitants in  
 1772 - 2,310,806 } the country.

It follows that the former were to the latter,

In 1751, as 1000 to 8,856  
 1772, as 1000 to 8,450

In Stockholm there are reckoned to be 70,000 inhabitants; in Gottenburg 20,000; in Norkœping 9000; in Carlscrona 9000; in Obo 8000; in Gessle 6000; in Fahlun, Malinæ, and Landscrona, 4000. These are the most populous. Among the rest there are some which do not contain above 300. Capitals in every country are theatres of vice and corruption. At Stockholm, for twelve or sixteen years, the number of illegitimate children has been doubled: every seventh child is of that description. Marriages have



have decreased in a striking manner; in 1767 there were 732, and in 1782 only 476: during one of the late years there were 1807 births, and 3084 deaths.

The table of births and deaths for the whole kingdom, in general, is less alarming. From the year 1774 to 1777 it is as follows:

## B I R T H S.

Years.		Males.	Females.	Total.
1774	—	47,082	45,380	92,462
1775	—	47,492	46,030	93,322
1776	—	46,280	44,583	90,863
1777	—	47,122	45,334	92,458

## D E A T H S.

Years.		Males.	Females.	Total.
1774	—	37,966	29,249	57,215
1775	—	32,254	33,158	65,412
1776	—	31,982	32,437	64,419
1777	—	35,227	36,830	71,957

We shall here subjoin the list of child-murders, from the year 1749 to 1778, as published by Mr. Wargentin.

In the year 1749	9	1764	7
1750	10	1765	14
1751	19	1766	5
1752	7	1767	18
1753	12	1768	14
1754	12	1769	6
1755	11	1770	8
1756	9	1771	4
1757	10	1772	12
1758	6	1773	18
1759	15	1774	16
1760	7	1775	7
1761	13	1776	12
1762	10	1777	21
1763	10	1778	20

Several Swedish writers, whose assertions have been repeated in other countries, maintain, that Sweden has been deprived by emigrations of a number of useful citizens.

The Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm even proposed a prize, some time ago, to the person who should discover the best method of preventing an evil so fatal to the state ; but this idea is now exploded, because

because it has been proved, that those emigrations, of which so melancholy a picture was exhibited, can have no influence upon the progress of population. The Swedes are fond of travelling; they imagine other countries to be richer and more agreeable than their own, and they consider them as more brilliant and more extensive theatres, where Fortune is waiting to crown them with her favours: but at the same time the Swedes love their own country; they have an affection for the soil which gave them birth, and the ties of friendship, education, and early customs, soon make them sensible of their ascendancy. Fortune is found to be less kind than they expected; she deceives those fond hopes which they took a pleasure in cherishing: they return to the bosom of their families, and with joy revisit their native clime. The absence of a few artists, established in Germany and France, and of a few officers employed in foreign service, can never do any hurt to the general population.

There are other obstacles much more

pernicious, which impede its increase. Fecundity is not so great in Sweden as in the southern countries. People cannot multiply so much on an ungrateful soil, and under a climate which fetters labour, as in countries where Nature second the efforts of industry by her benign influence. Though every precaution has been taken to prevent the ravages occasioned by famine, bad seasons prove still very fatal to these provinces, naturally barren, and placed in such a situation that relief cannot easily be given them. The great use which the people make of spirits enervates their bodies, destroys the prolific principles, and renders them subject to diseases each more destructive than another. Men born with robust constitutions—men in the flower of their age, vegetate, languish, and drop into the grave, victims to their passion for a treacherous liquor: marriages become every day more uncommon, and less happy, among citizens of the higher classes—the melancholy effects of luxury, corruption, and dissipation. This evil, which tends more than any other

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to check propagation, because it poisons the sources of life, increases more and more in Sweden: it has now passed the boundaries of the capital, and is diffused throughout the whole country.

A great number of works have been published in Sweden on the population of the country, and the means of increasing it; but no one has yet handled this subject with so much success as Mr. Wargentin. Being one of the public commissioners of the register office, this learned man employed himself with great zeal on an object in which his mind and his heart were both interested; and he every year laid before administration correct lists and clear results. This respectable character \* is now no more; and the sciences, friendship, and his

\* He was secretary to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, and member of that at Paris. He died at Stockholm, the place of his nativity, on the 1st of September 1783, aged sixty-six. Astronomy is indebted to him for a very important discovery, respecting the equations of Jupiter's satellites. The Academy of Sweden caused a medal to be struck in honour of him, and procured a pension for his children, as he had been employed more in promoting the advancement of science than in increasing his fortune. T.

country, deplore their loss. The sincerest regret accompanied him to the tomb, and he indeed deserved it. How great the knowledge he possessed! what depth of reasoning, and at the same time what simplicity, modesty, and candour! No one could see Mr. Wargentin without entertaining that veneration for him which talents and virtue command; and no one could converse with him without becoming wiser, and acquiring fresh knowledge. Thou philosopher and sage, may thy manes not disdain this small tribute of a mortal who admired thy genius, who respected thy virtues, and who had the honour to call himself thy friend!

## C H A P. XIII.

## NATURAL RICHES.

**T**HOUGH Nature has shewn a manifest predilection for the southern countries, and though she has lavished her treasures upon them with the utmost profusion, she has not entirely forgotten those of the North. That common mother, affectionate and beneficent even under the most rigorous sky, displays her ingenuity in devising means to enrich her children, in spite of the destructive influence of a frozen climate. Has not even Lapland its rein deer?

Sweden is covered with forests, which abound, above all, in Norland and Finland: the traveller sees there in all their beauty, the beech, the birch, and the fir, the modest rival of the proud oak. These forests supply wood for fuel, which the severity of the climate renders so necessary, and planks,  
P 4 beams,

beams, pitch, and tar. They undoubtedly deserve the utmost attention of government, which has indeed employed every method possible to prevent those destructive ravages which are occasioned by improper management; but their efforts have not always been attended with the desired success, and the forests are exposed to frequent devastation.

A country abounding in woods ought to afford plenty of game for the sportsman; but this is not the case in Sweden so much as might be expected, owing doubtless to the great length of the winters. The only game useful to the public consists of different kinds of birds, destined to live in the North. A surprising quantity of moor-fowl and cocks of the wood are transported from the northern to the southern provinces, and are sold at a very moderate price.

There are few kinds of fish which are not found in the waters by which Sweden is surrounded or intersected. That species named *stræmning*, in the language of the country,



country, and known no where else, is so abundant in several parts of the Baltic, that it forms the principal part of the food of the inhabitants. The herring, which for some centuries had deserted the coasts of Sweden, again made its appearance there about forty or fifty years ago. The principal fisheries are in the province of Bohus: they produce annually about 300,000 tons, each of which contains 1000 herrings. The Swedish herrings, however, are never so good as those of Holland: when they arrive on the northern coasts they are old, and worn out with the fatigues of their voyage; besides this, the Swedes are not so well acquainted with the art of salting and packing them as the Dutch. A natural source of wealth, still more important to Sweden, is its mines. What a spectacle to behold those vast subterranean retreats which conceal treasures so valuable! Nature there appears in gloomy, yet respectable majesty, and displays as great a variety of riches as she does on the surface of the globe, which she has embellished with her wonderful productions.

tions. And man there, under what point of view does he appear? He undoubtedly must have possessed no small share of knowledge, firmness, and courage, to dig into the bowels of the earth, and have been actuated by the powerful hope of enriching himself, to overcome obstacles in appearance insurmountable, and to persist in an enterprise as fatiguing and laborious, as dangerous and terrible. If we consider, on the one hand, the miner diving into the dark bowels of the earth, and on the other the aeronaut traversing the immense ethereal regions, we must allow, that the daring and enterprising efforts of mankind scarcely know any bounds.

The richest iron mine in the kingdom, that of Danmora, is situated in the province of Upland, which in every respect is one of the best in Sweden. This mine, the greatest depth of which is eighty fathoms, occupies a considerable extent of territory; and the ore is conveyed to the surface of the earth, through several pits or openings made for that purpose, by means of casks fixed to  
large

large cables, which are put in motion by horses. The workmen, standing upon the edges of these casks, and having their arms clasped round the cable, descend and ascend with the utmost composure: they remain in the mine no longer than the time required for their daily labour. The water is drawn from the bottom of it by a wheel twenty-two yards in diameter, and is afterwards conveyed along an aqueduct 2500 yards in length. At certain distances from Danmora are the furnaces of Lœffstad, Forfmark, Öfsterby, Gimo, Harg, and Söderfors. All these places form so many villages, which are well built and extremely populous.

All this country is interesting, and particularly engages the attention of such travellers as traverse it. After having emerged from an obscure abyss, the eye dwells with pleasure on bushy woods, rich fields, green meadows, and beautiful gardens; while miners and blacksmiths, well lodged and well fed, as they all are in Sweden, exhibit a picture of vigour, activity, and contentment united. The approach of night opens a  
scene

scene which is singularly striking : the anvil, groaning under repeated strokes of the hammer, forms a contrast with the majestic silence of the plains and woods ; and the flames which issue from the forges diffuse streams of light, and illuminate the heavens. At several forges one may see some of those Walloons who came to Sweden, during the reign of Gustavus Adolphus, to teach the Swedes the art of manufacturing iron. They are still distinguished by several characteristic marks : they are more lively and cheerful than the old inhabitants ; they wear a particular dress, which shews that they have a taste for ornament ; and they marry only among themselves, by which means they transmit their manners and customs from generation to generation.

There are iron mines in the greater part of the provinces of this vast kingdom, but they cannot be opened without hurting other branches of national industry ; besides, some of them are situated in such a manner, that the expences of working them would be too considerable. Those wrought  
at

at present produce annually 1,200,000 *schp.*\* of mineral, which when melted gives 400,000 *schp.* of iron. These mines employ, in the whole kingdom, 25,600 persons, according to the calculations of the senator Stockenström, who wrote a memoir on the subject. The learned Polhem, in another memoir, read also before the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, pretends that the furnaces and forges of the kingdom, which give iron that degree of perfection which is necessary before it can be used, consume annually 2,400,000 loads of charcoal. The ore of Utæn, a small island of a few miles extent in the province of Sudermania, is employed to facilitate the melting of that of the greater part of the other mine. Those who work these mines reduce the ore into masses by melting it; but they cannot forge it, unless they find in their forests a sufficiency of wood to make charcoal.

\* *Schp.* is the contraction of *schleppund*, which contains, according to the author, about 320 pounds. The whole produce therefore of the Swedish mines will be about 171,431 tons of ore, and about 57,142 tons of iron. T.

Government marks out those forests which are to be employed for this purpose : it fixes also the quantity and the price of the charcoal which the forges and furnaces may use.

In the province of Dalecarlia, at a small distance from the town of Fahlun, are situated those gloomy and obscure caverns, which contain the best copper in Europe. The mine of Fahlun is very ancient, and its greatest depth at present is 180 fathoms. The principal opening exhibits a very striking spectacle : you there behold vast excavations, which, having been formerly ill directed, fell to pieces, and produced heaps of rubbish. Ladders conduct you to a considerable depth, without being deprived of day-light ; after which you discover, by the help of torches, which are carried before you, miners, and their habitations, horses, and stables. Wooden stairs are employed for the purpose of ascending and descending, because as the vitriolic water corrodes ropes and iron chains, it is impossible to make use of buckets or casks. The whole apparatus

apparatus and machinery, pumps, wheels, cylinders, and aqueducts, necessary to free the mine from the water which it contains, and to draw up the ore, fill the mind with astonishment, and attest the powers and resources of the human genius. In the neighbourhood of the mines nothing is to be seen but wild rocks, barren fields, and trees withered by a malady which attacked them some years ago, while such a thick smoke obscures the horizon, that the town of Fahlun is often hid by it, and the houses become of a dusky colour. The produce of this mine has been subject to great variations.

In 1650	it was	20,000 <i>schp.</i>
1676	- -	16,000
1690	- -	10,000
1708	- -	8,867
1752	- -	5,000
1767	- -	4 993

Since the last period it has decreased very little. The copper ore of Fahlun contains silver; but it is attended with too much expence to extract it. The mine of Otwid-  
 4 berg,

berg, in Smoland, was a long time neglected; it has however been wrought for some years past, and with considerable profit to the undertakers: it produces from six to seven thousand *schp.* per annum. The annual produce of all the copper mines in Sweden is between five and six thousand *schp.* An operation, which travellers behold with equal pleasure and astonishment, is performed at Fahlun four times every week: when the miners have collected ore enough to fill thirty-six buckets, they convey it to the surface of the earth, where it is divided into twelve heaps of equal value. Four of these heaps are employed for paying expences: the price of them is fixed by an overseer, who superintends the sale of the rest, which are immediately disposed of to the highest bidder.

The mine of Fahlun was long a source of riches; but it is now apprehended that it will not continue so. Bad management, an increase of expences, which become greater in proportion to the depth of the pits, the jarring interests of those who dig out  
out



out the ore, and those who forge it, and lastly the low price of copper, have produced a sensible derangement in these labours. This important object was referred to the discussion of the states in 1786, and assistance was requested from the bank of Stockholm ; but the directors refused to run any risk by making advances. If circumstances do not change, and if no effectual expedient be discovered, Fahlun must soon fall into complete ruin.

Of the silver mines which nature has bestowed on Sweden, that of Salberg, near the city of Sala in Westmania, is the oldest and richest. According to some Swedish authors, it produced in the fourteenth century upwards of 24,000 marcs per annum. This fecundity decreased so much in the following centuries, that about the end of the last it scarcely yielded one thousand. In the present century it has produced from sixteen to eighteen hundred. The lead necessary for melting it is procured from the mineral. Anthony Swab, an able mineralogist, has discovered a method of extract-

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ing silver from scoria, which was formerly thrown away as rubbish. The greatest depth of the mine of Salberg is one hundred and sixty fathoms: the workmen ascend and descend by buckets and ladders. The interior part of this mine exhibits a very striking view, and the eye with admiration contemplates those brilliant masses, from which the ingenuity of man extracts that metal so dear to his avarice. The works of Salberg, however, are neither so remarkable, nor so numerous, as those of Danmora and Fahlun. There are some other silver mines in Sweden; but the produce of them is of very little consequence. After the ore is melted, and the metal refined, it is sent, thus prepared, to the mint at Stockholm.

In the year 1738 a gold mine was discovered in Smoland, at a place called *Ædelfors*. This mine is very poor, and produces only from five to six thousand ducats annually, which do not defray the expences of working it. The lead mine discovered in Finland is not yet thoroughly explored: it is said, that it will yield only a very  
2 small

small quantity of metal. Three hundred *schp.* of sulphur, from eight to nine hundred *schp.* of vitriol, and seventeen hundred tons of a red earth fit for painting, are procured every year from a place called Dylta, in the province of Nericia. Andrarum, Lofvars, Garphyttan, &c. furnish, one year with another, 7000 tons of alum. Scandia contains coal mines, which have lately engaged the attention of government. Quarries of slate are very abundant, and are wrought with great care. Those of marble are not so numerous; but they are much richer. The isles of Gothland and Æland furnish great plenty of lime stone.

The mines of Sweden belonged formerly to the clergy; but as the proprietors of them did not know their value, they were neglected. They were afterwards appropriated by the crown, and wrought at its expence; but they were at length farmed out to individuals, on very advantageous terms. They pay  $3\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. when the mine is situated on ground exempt from taxes, and 10 per cent. when it is upon

taxed ground. Those who enter into these engagements with the crown form several associations, divided into more or fewer shares. No person has ever yet been found who would undertake to work the gold mine of *Ædelfors*.

The principal riches of Sweden are contained in the bowels of the earth; and for this reason the chief attention of government has always been directed thither. Ordonances respecting the labour of the mines appeared as early as the thirteenth century: Gustavus I. and Gustavus Adolphus published a great many. The college of mines is an establishment of the highest utility: it has lately undergone several advantageous alterations, which tend to bring it still to greater perfection. For the relief of those who are engaged in the mining business, or who are proprietors of forges, an establishment was formed in the year 1740, under the title of the *Iron Office*, where money is lent upon that metal at the rate of four per cent. The funds of the company to whom it belongs arise from  
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the profits of the trade they carry on, and from the duties which they levy upon iron when exported by others. They are allowed to pursue such measures as they may judge most conducive to their interest; and they meet every three years in order to choose directors.

The Germans first made the Swedes acquainted with the art of working mines, and manufacturing the metals procured from them; but that part of the art which depends upon mechanics has been brought to great perfection by a Swede, whose name ought to be immortal in Sweden. To the inventive genius of Christopher Polhem are his countrymen indebted for those surprising machines which strike the eye of every traveller at Danmora, Fahlun, and Salberg. This celebrated mechanic was invited to Russia by Peter I.; but he refused to accept the offers made to him, as he considered it more glorious to serve his own country, than to share in the labours of the creator of an empire. Sweden did not forget a son who shewed himself so worthy of her

gratitude: his services were rewarded by honours, titles, and pensions. It is pleasing to see talents employed for the good of the public; and it affords no less satisfaction to see them crowned with those rewards which they deserve.

## C H A P. XIV.

## CULTIVATION.

THOSE labours which fertilize the fields, and add to the riches of nature, are worthy of attention in every country ; but above all in those where they seem to have been forbidden to man, and where, in pursuing them, he must struggle against numerous obstacles, and give striking proofs of genius, patience and courage.

The inhabitants of Sweden lived formerly by hunting and fishing, but principally by the latter ; and they continued this mode of existing longer than other nations, because a decided taste for war, and the nature of their country, seemed to invite them to it. In process of time, however, they began to think of cultivating that soil on which Heaven had placed them. Gustavus I. who neglected no branch of public administration, exerted himself with great assiduity

duity in advancing the progress of agriculture. Like a tender and enlightened parent, who spares no trouble when the happiness of his children is concerned, he conversed with the farmers, and gave them useful advice respecting the art of turning their possessions to advantage. The reigns which followed that of Gustavus were marked sometimes by domestic broils, and sometimes by wars and conquests. The Swedes acquired rich granaries when they got possession of Livonia and several of the northern provinces of Germany. Gustavus Adolphus, Charles X. and Charles XII. accustomed them more to handle the sword than to guide the plough; but a change of times introduced a change of customs and other cares. Being deprived of their foreign magazines, they found it necessary to repair the loss; but this could not be done without paying the closest attention to the cultivation of their native soil: agriculture therefore became the object of the solicitude of government, and individuals exerted themselves with no less zeal to render it flourishing.

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In travelling through Sweden one finds fields well cultivated, and covered with rye, wheat, barley, and oats. Meadows are not wanting, some of which are natural, others artificial, and they produce excellent grafs; but they can be mown only once. Vegetables of every kind are known and reared: potatoes grow in abundance, and the people begin to be fond of them. Proprietors of land who are in easy circumstances have orchards, kitchen-gardens, hot-beds, and green-houses, and display on their tables cherries, pears, plums, and melons, which would do no dishonour to the southern countries. An industrious farmer has formed a garden in the neighbourhood of Torneo, and his labour has been more than doubly rewarded by abundant crops. During the reign of Christina, an ordonance was published, enjoining every peasant to plant fruit-trees around his habitation; but this order has been neglected. It might however be easily executed: common cherries, gooseberries, several sorts of pears and apples, ripen in the open air in most of the provinces;

vinces; and trees require very little attention, and generally withstand the severity of the winter. Among the pears which ripen in Sweden, the most remarkable is the bergamot; and among the apples that of Astracan, which has a most agreeable taste.

For some years past the Swedes have applied with great ardour to the cultivation of hemp and flax; and on this account they import much less than before from other countries. Tobacco, so highly valued by all the people of the north, is also greatly esteemed in Sweden: the fields in the neighbourhood of the capital, and of some other cities, are entirely covered with it. Bees, too, are not neglected; but the climate seems to be unfavourable for breeding them; and the Swedes perhaps have not sufficiently studied the care and attention which these useful insects require in cold countries.

The half of those vast territories which compose Sweden is occupied by forests, lakes, marshes, rocks, and underwood. Rich proprietors, however, improve a great deal by blowing up rocks, clearing away  
woods,

woods, draining marshes, and rooting up bulhes. By these means fields and meadows increase every year, and industry makes new conquests over nature.

Vegetation languishes for a long time in the north ; and by the severity of the winter it often loses that valuable force which, in other countries, is so profitable to man : but when the fine weather commences, its remaining vigour expands with surprising rapidity : the sun, which scarcely ever quits the horizon, heats the atmosphere, and produces at the same time both flowers and fruit. The Swedes sow in May, and reap in August. The seeds committed to the earth in autumn exhibit a very striking phenomenon ; they spring up, and form a carpet of the most beautiful verdure : but the snow arrives, and soon hides this rich decoration. For six or seven months it is entirely concealed from view ; and one imagines that it has disappeared for ever : but on the return of spring it revives in all its beauty. Having received nourishment under the thick crust with which it was covered,

vered, instead of losing its splendour and freshness, it displays new charms, and delights every eye.

Another spectacle common in Sweden deserves also to be mentioned. Bursting flames rise from the woods, a thick smoke obscures the heavens, and the traveller imagines that he beholds a dreadful conflagration: his fears, however, are soon dissipated when he is informed, that some farmer in the neighbourhood has set fire to the bushes, in order to clear a piece of ground, which he afterwards sows, and to which the ashes of the wood serve as a manure: such a field is called *foedjeland*. This method of fertilizing the ground is far from being profitable: it destroys the woods, and the ground, after producing for two or three years, becomes entirely useless. It is therefore generally disapproved, and is rarely practised since agriculture has been brought to perfection.

The rearing of cattle is one of the most important branches of rural economy: the Swedes are well acquainted with it, and do  
not

not neglect it ; but their cattle are small, as is the case in all the other northern regions ; and they would be more so, were not the breed mended by a mixture with those of other countries. They cannot feed on grafs for more than five or six months ; during the rest of the year they are confined to their stalls, and cost the proprietors a considerable sum for their maintenance.

Other difficulties arising from the climate tend greatly to retard the progress of cultivation : dry springs, wet harvests, early or late frosts, the cold and shade occasioned by thick and marshy forests, and the inactivity that takes place during the long winters, when man participates in the stupor of nature, are the principal obstacles opposed by the climate to rural labours. When the harvest is finished, the farmer meets with new difficulties in vending his productions, as the channels of commerce are often shut, in an immense country which is at the same time very ill peopled. The custom of making the peasants furnish horses and carriages to travellers must also  
be

be very prejudicial to agriculture: the peasant is paid, it is true; but he loses his time, which is valuable, neglects more essential occupations, and acquires a fondness for an idle and wandering life. Bad seasons often ruin the farmer: if he is not rich he cannot find means to procure that credit which is necessary, and perhaps the following crops are bad, both in quantity and quality. Public magazines are, however, going to be established, which will no doubt be of the greatest utility. Notwithstanding all these inconveniences, the Swedes would not be so often obliged to import grain from foreign countries, did they renounce spirituous liquors, which consume a considerable part of the produce of their soil. They have beer, and that alone might be sufficient. Some Swedish politicians pretend that they were less exposed to famines in those remote ages when the art of cultivating the earth was not so far advanced in Sweden as it is at present; but then the use of spirituous liquors was unknown amongst them. They maintain, that  
under

under Gustavus I. the Swedes exported corn.

Scandia, Ostrogothia, and Finland, seem to be the provinces most susceptible of those improvements in agriculture, which are essential to the subsistence of man. The soil and climate of Scandia are the same as those of the northern districts of Germany: all kinds of grain ripen properly in that province, and the cattle attain to a greater size than in other parts of Sweden. Ostrogothia is a delightful country, intersected with hills and lakes: its inhabitants are intelligent and active. Finland abounds with fertile plains and excellent pastures; the soil there has yielded sometimes twenty and thirty fold: hemp, flax, and tobacco, thrive well. In the northern part of it there are vast districts, which the nearest villages took possession of without a legal title, and which they could not turn to any advantage. Government, however, ordered these to be accurately surveyed; and having left to the ancient proprietors an extent proportioned to their means, converted the rest into new farms

farms subject to new rents ; but those who possess them are exempted from paying them for twelve years. Smoland supports itself by its pastures. Upland, Sudermania, Westmania, and Nericia, have an ungrateful soil ; but the industry of the inhabitants assists the efforts of nature, and for the most part procures them the necessaries of life. In other provinces the inhabitants struggle against obstacles, sometimes with success, but often with great loss : in some years they are obliged to mix the roots and the bark of trees with the coarse meal which they use.

Rural economy is indebted, for the great progress it has made in Sweden, to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm. This learned society, by the memoirs which it publishes, has thrown great light upon several essential objects of agriculture : it has made known the art of distinguishing the different kinds of soil, and that of manuring and tilling them : it has also procured seeds from foreign nations, and distributed them throughout the country. The Patriotic Society,



ciety, instituted by public-spirited and enlightened citizens, is intitled also to the gratitude of the farmers: it publishes an economical journal; collects models of such instruments of agriculture as are best adapted to the country, and rewards by prizes those labourers whose industry deserves to be encouraged.

In the whole kingdom there are reckoned to be 80,205 territorial possessions, or *hemman*; which are either royal, *krono hemman*; free, *frælse hemman*; or taxed, *skatte hemman*. Those of the first kind depend immediately on the crown, which farms them out, *purt krono*; those of the second belong to the nobility, and sometimes by a dispensation to peasants, *purt frælse*, which comprehends the *fæterier*, &c. and those of the third kind hold of the crown, particular noblemen, or peasants, and are let to those who cultivate them and pay the quit rents, *krono skatte hemman*, *frælse skatte hemman*. It was long forbidden to divide territorial possessions: this prohibition the states annulled in 1748, and at the same time established the *surveyors office*, which consists of a director,

an overseer, five engineers, and a secretary. One hundred and sixteen surveyors, dispersed throughout the provinces, and employed under the direction of this office, measure the different farms to facilitate the levying of the taxes. These farms they lay out in such a manner as may be most favourable to cultivation, and divide them into as many parts as the proprietor wishes. These surveyors delineate geographical and topographical charts of the districts they traverse, which are employed by government for constructing those general and particular maps of the kingdom which they publish.

It is very interesting to consider man in that state in which he finds himself nearest to his primitive existence. Must not those respectable mortals, who by assiduous labour are kept at a distance from vice; whose countenances display innocence and candour, and who are acquainted with no other luxury than a beautiful sky, and a smiling landscape, engage our attention sooner than the courtier, who rises only by cringeing—than that favourite of fortune who reposes  
on

on down in the arms of effeminacy—and than the conceited coxcomb who disgraces the dignity of man by the futility of his taste?—If you enter the cottage of the Swedish peasant, you will there behold order, neatness, hospitality, and often an air of opulence. You with pleasure contemplate the person who inhabits it; his food is simple, but substantial, and suited to the climate; his clothes, though coarse, are decent; he is not the victim of political oppression, and he bears in his eyes an image of his soul, which is not crushed by the yoke of despotism, and a load of misery. For the most part he can read and write; he is acquainted with the principal facts of the history of his country; he converses with his children, and kindles in their bosoms the flame of patriotism. The Swedish farmers are divided into several classes, according to the lands which they possess: some of them farm the crown lands for a certain number of years, and others hold farms from the nobility on the same terms. There is also a third class still more respectable: it consists

of those who possess lands taxed for the benefit of the crown: they purchase the produce of these lands, and it passes successively from father to son, as long as the tenant fulfils the engagements he has contracted. These are the peasants who, by the constitution of the country, are permitted to sit in the national assemblies. Many of them have acted a conspicuous part in the political theatre, at those critical periods, when anarchy gave rise to commotions and discord. The name of Olof Hokanson will always be respected in Sweden: this peasant, born in a village of the province of Blekingen, was sent as the deputy of his order to twelve diets, and as speaker to eight. In 1743, when the states were deliberating on the appointment of a successor to the throne, the nobility, the clergy, and the citizens unanimously made choice of Adolphus Frederic; but the peasants not approving this election, violently opposed it, and refused to give their vote to any one but the prince of Denmark Hokanson, however, undertook to bring them back to a sense

a sense of their duty ; and having assembled them, in the space of one hour prevailed on them to agree in sentiment with the other representatives of the nation. This worthy citizen died at Stockholm, during the diet of 1769, aged seventy-five. On account of his services he was buried with all the honours due to so respectable a character. He was interred in the church of Riddarholm, in the tomb of the family of the Counts de Ferfen ; and the marshal, the speakers of the clergy and citizens, all the deputies of the order of peasants, and many of those of the other three orders, attended him to the grave. Hokanson possessed a sound judgment, good sense, and the talent of speaking. Though never regularly educated, he had acquired a considerable share of knowledge by reading and observation ; and the honours conferred upon him in the capital, and the pleasures to which he was admitted, never destroyed any part of his valuable simplicity. Admitted at Stockholm to the sumptuous tables of the first men in the kingdom, he returned with no less satisfaction to

the rural enjoyments of his cottage; and with the same hand which had signed the decrees of the diet, he went to guide the plow in the fields. King Frederick, when on a tour through the southern provinces of the kingdom, stopped at Hokanson's habitation with his whole train, and partook of a repast under the humble roof of this good rustic. How interesting this rencontre between the plow and the crown must have been! and what pleasure might the soul of Frederic have experienced, had not pomp and grandeur rendered him insensible to those sentiments which are so dear to nature!

The national troops of Sweden are distributed throughout the kingdom; and it must give pleasure to every true patriot to see these men, destined to fight for their country, confounded with the farmer, assisting him in his labours, and improving the small portion of land which surrounds their habitations. While disposed of in this manner, they are neither debased by vice, nor enervated by debauchery; their frugal, ac-  
tive,

tive, and regular way of life strengthens their bodies, and renders them capable of supporting severe labour and fatigue. In the field of battle, a wife and children, the friends of infancy and youth, and a dear habitation, in which their days have rolled on in peace, recur to their remembrance, rouse their courage, and increase their ardour.

But let us not enter upon a subject which has too little relation with that of which we have been treating. Can we stop the train of Mars, while the eye still wanders over fields, meadows, flocks, and cottages, where the peaceful rustic is concealed by his lot in happy obscurity?

## C H A P. XV.

## INDUSTRY.

**F**ROM fields where the plow opens the bosom of the earth, let us turn to the habitations of the artist and mechanic, which are the theatre of industry. It must have been a work of great difficulty to settle a restless, wandering, and warlike people: the arts, therefore, were first established in Sweden by the Germans, who were civilized much earlier than the inhabitants of the Scandinavian islands. National workmen, several of whom are very expert, were afterwards formed; but the price of labour is exceedingly dear, especially in the capital. This high price of labour is the natural consequence of a scarcity of hands; of the want of rivalry which thence results; and of the manner in which tradesmen live. Particular reasons tend to increase the  
want



want of rivalship. The number of people employed in the arts in Sweden, is not so great, in proportion to its population, as elsewhere. They generally bake their own bread, brew their own beer, and make their own candles. The villages in the country, being for the most part far distant from each other, and consisting of no more than two or three houses, the peasant finds himself under the necessity of becoming his own shoe-maker, his own weaver, and his own taylor.

The different bodies of tradesmen are organised as in Germany: thoughts have been sometimes entertained of abolishing these bodies; but too many obstacles seemed to stand in the way of such a measure. It is not easy to change customs as ancient as the state in which they exist: they are too intimately connected with other objects of civil society.

Manufactories of every kind were long unknown in Sweden. The oldest mentioned in the annals of the country, were those destined for preparing different metals.

tals. In the beginning of the last century, several important branches of manufacture were established, which increased considerably under Charles XI. that monarch clothed his whole army with cloth made in the country. Charles XII. undertook long, bloody, and destructive wars; and though the forges were kept up during his reign, the work-shops were soon deserted. They were, however, again filled, when after the death of that prince they obtained the protection of a government more attentive to the real prosperity of the kingdom. As agriculture and commerce are the grand objects of patriotic zeal, manufactures ought never to be neglected: honours and rewards were therefore bestowed on those who cultivated these branches; money was advanced, and premiums were bestowed with profusion. Had these efforts been conducted according to any regular plan or system, they would have had a most decided influence on the public welfare; but faults were committed which retarded the progress of the good intended to be done.

done. Instead of consulting the climate, and the nature of the country, in the choice of those labours which were to be the objects of national industry, plans were formed from the example of people whose economical and physical situation was totally different from that of the Swedes. Instead of proceeding from objects of necessity, or of the utmost utility, to objects of luxury, attention was first paid to the latter, and the former were neglected. Interest and avarice usurped those rewards which were due only to abilities and genius; and amidst the shocks of a government reduced almost to a state of anarchy, what was raised by one hand was overturned by the other. The kings, during a long series of years favourable to their empire, had expended large sums of money in endeavouring to make manufactures flourish. Several millions were consecrated to this purpose; but when the commons gained the ascendancy in the Diet of 1765, they retrenched the whole, and by these means gave a mortal stab to the manufacturers. The sumptuary laws pub-

lished at the same time with a view of preventing the consequences which were apprehended as likely to follow, were not attended with the wished for success: in 1754 the manufactures of Sweden employed 14,301 persons; but in 1771 they employed no more than 9000. This fatal wound is not yet healed, though several remedies have been applied.

Independent of those obstacles, arising from the errors of administration, it will always be difficult to bring manufactures in Sweden to that extent and degree of perfection to which they have been carried in other states. That country supplies few raw materials, and has no colonies to furnish those which it does not produce; the channels through which commodities can be disposed of, are few, precarious and embarrassed; during great part of the year the workmen must have recourse to artificial light; a sharp air requires strong, nourishing food, and on that account the expence of living is very high. The Swedish patriots complain also, that the people have

too much taste for foreign merchandize : they are indeed in a great measure prohibited ; but notwithstanding they are still introduced into the kingdom, for the coasts are so extensive, that it is impossible to guard them in such a manner as to prevent frauds. If the national workman has need of emulation, he has still more need of a ready and sure sale for his manufactures : it is in the country itself that emulation ought to be excited ; and it is there that active rivalry might produce the most salutary effects. As there are some articles in all countries which spite of every effort will always be inferior to those of the same kind manufactured abroad, leave should be granted to import them on paying certain duties ; or they should be prohibited altogether. The silk manufactories are in a very languishing condition in Sweden. The works which they furnish are dear, and of an indifferent quality, except gauzes, ribbands, and a few other objects. It is, however, necessary to dress in silk, especially in the capital ; and on this account several prohibitions

hibitions have been rescinded, and articles before forbidden may be imported into the country, on paying the duties prescribed by the tariff of the custom-house. It is greatly to be lamented that many artisans are by these means deprived of work, and that considerable sums of money, employed in establishing national manufactures of this kind, should have produced no real and lasting advantage.

The manufactures which employ cotton and camels hair thrive better ; but they are not numerous. The materials used have generally passed through a number of hands, before they are introduced into Sweden ; and the hair procured from the Asiatic goats, when transported into that country, and exposed to the severity of its climate, is not an object of consequence.

Since the English, Spanish, and German, breeds of sheep \* have multiplied, and since the cultivation of flax and hemp has been

\* The following is an account of the Swedish wool sold in manufactures from 1751 to 1779.

been extended, broad cloths, fine and coarse linens, sail cloth and cordage have been manufactured

Years.	Pounds.	Years.	Pounds.
1751 —	9,281	1766 —	65,201
1752 —	12,827 $\frac{1}{2}$	1767 —	82,613
1753 —	24,970 $\frac{1}{4}$	1768 —	74,322 $\frac{1}{4}$
1754 —	23,115 $\frac{1}{2}$	1769 —	75,108 $\frac{1}{4}$
1755 —	27,815 $\frac{1}{2}$	1770 —	74,882 $\frac{1}{2}$
1756 —	22,195 $\frac{3}{4}$	1771 —	76,701 $\frac{3}{4}$
1757 —	31,561	1772 —	72,651 $\frac{1}{4}$
1758 —	32,474	1773 —	88,551
1759 —	35,363 $\frac{1}{2}$	1774 —	105,569 $\frac{1}{4}$
1760 —	53,363 $\frac{1}{2}$	1775 —	115,934 $\frac{1}{2}$
1761 —	71,294	1776 —	133,319 $\frac{1}{2}$
1762 —	71,294	1777 —	141,150 $\frac{1}{2}$
1763 —	68,999	1778 —	146,260 $\frac{1}{2}$
1764 —	67,792	1779 —	126,999
1765 —	68,215		
		<b>Total</b>	1,984,376 $\frac{3}{4}$

Sweden imported from Spain and Portugal between the years 1750 and 1780.

Years.	Pounds.	Years.	Pounds.
1751 —	100,301	1757 —	98,478
1752 —	67,070	1758 —	78,638
1753 —	83,645	1759 —	56,410
1754 —	82,230	1760 —	68,013
1755 —	103,501	1761 —	97,755
1756 —	56,608	1762 —	77,985
		Years.	

nufactured with success, and in considerable quantities. The produce of the broad cloth manufactured in Sweden, may amount to 500,000 rix-dollars annually: Spain and Portugal furnish wool, which must be mixed with that of the country. The fine Swedish cloth is much esteemed; it is generally used, and large quantities of it are exported, on account of the bounty, which is twelve per cent. when the cloth is exported to any country of Europe, and twenty-five per cent. when exported to any other quarter of the globe. As the coarse cloths are inferior in quality, and much dearer, they will not, like fine cloths,

Years.	Pounds.	Years.	Pounds.
1763	— 17,823	1773	— 39,223
1764	— 35,672	1774	— 43,532
1765	— 70,440	1775	— 89,593
1766	— 14,440	1776	— 57,554
1767	— 43,275	1777	— 66,368
1768	— 27,739	1778	— 209,931
1769	— 50,549	1779	— 69,622
1770	— 91,200		—
1771	— 45,575	Total	2,001,729
1772	— 56,266		

defray



defray the expence of labour, and the consumption of them is much more limited. The peasants manufacture those woollen stuffs which they use for their dresses, and with which they clothe the soldiers. The peasants also, and above all those of Westrogothia, Norland, and Finland, manufacture the principal part of the linen cloths, which are exceedingly good, and sold at a moderate price. The country manufactures might be encouraged, in order to afford occupation to the inhabitants during the long winters, were the cities numerous enough, and sufficiently populous. Administration has opened in the capital, and in some provinces, public workhouses, destined for the relief of the poor, who are employed in manufacturing linen and thread. The overseers are empowered to dispose of the works which they produce. There are paper manufactories in different parts of the kingdom; but they do not supply enough for daily consumption. The Swedes are well acquainted with the art of dressing leather: considerable quantities are however

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imported

imported from Russia and England. The gloves of Scandia are in great request, and many of them are sold in the neighbouring countries. A person has for some time been settled in the capital, who manufactures excellent morocco. Sugar bake-houses, salt works, starch, powder, tobacco, and soap manufactories, together with oil mills, have been established of late years. In the ports where the herrings are caught, innumerable hands are employed in extracting oil from them. The porcelain and stone ware of Marieberg and Rorsstrand, in the neighbourhood of the capital, are inferior in quality to those of China and other countries of Europe. Glass-houses have not yet attained to a high degree of perfection in Sweden: there is only one worthy of notice, which was established in Finland by a very active and intelligent person. The Swedes make a respectable figure as gilders, goldsmiths, jewellers, and watchmakers; and they have applied, for some time past, and with considerable success, to embroidery.

The art of preparing timber and metals  
is,

is, however, a branch of industry to which the Swedes pay particular attention, because it may have a very sensible influence upon their commerce, and consequently upon the riches of the nation. Government is fully sensible of this, and for some years past has given great encouragement to those who pursue that object. Immense forests, composed of the beech, the fir, and the birch, are a treasure which industry and labour may turn to great advantage. The Swedes for a long time have carried into these obscure retreats fire, the saw and the mallet, in order to procure fuel, timber for building, masts, planks, pitch, wood, and potashes. Lately they have endeavoured to extend this lucrative branch of industry, and immense docks have been constructed in most of the ports of the kingdom. The English, the French, and the Dutch purchase vessels in Sweden, which are all built of fir, but exceedingly cheap. The inhabitants of Westrogothia, Sudermania, and Norland form utensils of every kind, with much skill and ingenuity. In several

cities, and particularly the capital, the business of cabinet-making and inlaying is brought to such perfection as to produce master-pieces of elegance and convenience, with which the English first made the Swedes acquainted.

The riches procured from the mines, which Nature has dispersed throughout all Sweden, deserve also every attention from the inhabitants. They are brought by art to a degree of perfection which astonishes every traveller. Even in the beginning of the sixteenth century, several hundreds of years after the discovery of the iron mines of that country, this metal was delivered, in its natural state, to the people of Lubeck, who, after forging and casting it, resold the greater part of it in Sweden, and gained all the price of manufacturing it from those who possessed the first materials. Gustavus I. however, undertook to put an end to that shameful loss: the first places for casting iron were constructed under his reign; forges were established soon after, and the number still increases every day. The  
greater

greater part of them are in Upland, Westmania, and Wermland. The proprietors of these immense works are the richest subjects in the kingdom. In some of these forges, the Walloon method is employed, and in others the German : the former saves wood and charcoal ; the latter produces the best iron. The furnaces for casting it are in Sweden kept heated for forty weeks successively : they are sixteen or eighteen yards in height : twenty-six *schp.* of melted ore, after passing through the forges, yield twenty *schp.* of iron. It is very curious to behold all these labours, and to see the melted metal pouring down like a rivulet of fire. What sensations one experiences ! what ideas arise on viewing those sons of Vulcan softening and subduing mighty masses, which to appearance seem capable of resisting all the force of man ! Of 400,000 *schp.* of iron produced by these furnaces and forges, about 100,000 are afterwards brought to different degrees of fineness in Sweden.

Anchors are forged in several places ; but those of Söderfors are accounted the best. Iron guns, bombs, and grenades are fabricated at Stafsjöe, Oker, and Finspong ; brass guns are cast at Stockholm ; and fuses, sword blades, carabines, and other instruments of destruction are made at Norköping, Jönköping, and in the capital. Manufactories of iron plates, tin plate, steel, iron wire, nails, and various kinds of utensils have increased very much of late years. The city of Eskilstuna, in Sudermania, is remarkable for the manufactories of steel and cast iron, which government have established there. On this account, the city has obtained several privileges, and the workmen who distinguish themselves by their industry receive establishments according to their merit. There are several of them who display great ingenuity, and whose works are almost as well finished as those of England. Were the consumption considerable, and certain, these manufactures might easily be extended, and brought to perfection ; but  
this

this advantage is wanting: hence that kind of languor observed in trade, and those prices which surprise foreigners.

The mine of Fahlun was discovered in the thirteenth century, and some time after other mines were found which contained copper; but the Swedes suffered several centuries to elapse before they began to manufacture these metals themselves. They acquired this art during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries: but they have brought it to much greater perfection in the present century. The copper is melted in a great number of furnaces, dispersed around the mines. The operation of refining it is performed in a village of Dalecarlia, called Avestad, which produces annually 6000 *schp.* of pure metal. The manufactories of brass and brass wire consume annually 2000 *schp.*: the rest is exported, or converted into sheets for coppering vessels; into very thin plates for covering houses; into various utensils, and into money.

If we add to all these different establishments, of which we have here given a short

sketch, the salt-petre works to be found in every province of the kingdom, the alum works, the powder mills, the principal of which is at Hedemora in Dalecarlia, and the manufactories of vitriol and red lead, we shall have a complete state of the labours and industry of the Swedes.

Exclusive privileges are hurtful, or beneficial, according to circumstances: ministers, therefore, ought carefully to examine them, and to consider what advantages or disadvantages are likely to result from them. There are exclusive privileges in Sweden; but they are few in number, and government is cautious not to be too lavish in bestowing them. The rate of taxes which the mechanic and manufacturer can support, is determined by the extent of his manufactories or workshops, and the quantity of articles that come from them.

If the French respect the memory of Colbert, the Swedes also respect that of Louis de Geer, and Jonas Alströmer, two citizens, who, though they held no offices under government, rendered essential services to the Swedish nation. Their names, without



without having shonemuch by that splendour which proceeds from pompous titles, ought to be preserved for ever in the annals of the kingdom. Posterity never asks if those whose names are celebrated in history were of illustrious birth, or whether they held any public office, lived in a palace, or approached the throne with familiarity; but whether they employed their attention upon useful and important objects; whether they served their fellow citizens with zeal, and extended the sphere of their labours, and their happiness.

Louis de Geer, of a patrician family dispersed throughout Germany and Flanders, naturally possessed indefatigable activity, and an ardent zeal for grand enterprises. Having repaired to Sweden under the reign of Gustavus Adolphus, he established himself at Norkœping, where he applied to commerce; and being successful in his speculations, he soon acquired such a fortune as enabled him to contribute considerably towards the public welfare. The Swedes are indebted to him for their manufactories  
of

of brass : he established forges and furnaces, and sent to Flanders and Liege for Walloons, who taught them the true method of forging and casting iron.

Whilst the Swedes were reaping laurels in Germany, and filling it with the terror of their arms, foreigners were laying, in the country of these warlike people, the first foundations of the arts of peace. Denmark, a neighbour always jealous, united in the mean time with the other enemies of Sweden, and the theatre of a new war was about to be established in the centre of the kingdom. Christina, however, prevented this danger ; and her efforts were seconded by De Geer, who fitted out a fleet of thirty merchant vessels, the greater part Dutch, which he made to act, in concert with the royal navy, against the Danes. Public education was also an object of his attention : he invited into the kingdom Amos Comenius, who acted a distinguished part in Germany, and gave him orders to bring about a reformation in the Swedish schools. As all these services, so real and so important, deserved

deserved a grateful return from government, lands and castles were assigned to this ingenious foreigner ; he received every honour that his merit deserved, and his arms were placed amongst those of the nobility. What Louis de Geer was in the last, Jonas Alströmer was in the present century. This useful citizen, so much the more remarkable as he had to struggle against many obstacles and difficulties, was born in a small village of Westrogothia, called Alingsfos. Having emerged from that obscurity to which his birth and fortune seemed to have condemned him, he resolved to travel, and resided some time at London. On this vast theatre his views became enlarged; and when he beheld the flourishing state of England, he was sensible of the value of that industry, which ignorance and prejudice had made the greater part of the nations of Europe so long neglect. The English, the French, and the Germans had already found it the source of their happiness; but the Swedes did not yet possess that powerful spring of public felicity. When Alströmer

returned to Sweden, he formed the noble design of instructing his countrymen respecting their real interests; and of directing them in a path with which they were before unacquainted. Having solicited permission to establish manufactories, the states, when assembled in 1723, granted his request, and he executed his plan in that city in which he first drew breath. Alstroemer at the same time carried on a very extensive trade, in company with another respectable citizen called Nicholas Sahlgren: this house was the first in the kingdom, and formed the glory of Gottenburg, where it was established. It consulted the public welfare no less than its own private interest; but jealousy, always awake, and the spirit of party, so well acquainted with the art of laying snares, did not spare the patriot, who was exerting himself with so much ardour for the prosperity of the nation. He might indeed have been seduced by some ideas more specious than solid, and he might have mistaken, in some enterprises, the nature and properties of his country; but what man is

there, who does not err in a new path which no one has trod before him? The skilful workmen whom Alstrœmer brought from other nations, the models and processes which he made known, and the care which he bestowed on the breeding of sheep, at present so useful to the kingdom, justify the confidence with which he was honoured by administration. Frederic I. decorated him with the order of the polar star, and gave him the title of counsellor of commerce. Adolphus granted him letters of nobility; and in 1766 the states decreed, that a bust of him should be placed in the exchange of Stockholm. This monument does not exist at present; but it is sufficient for the glory of Alstrœmer, that he was thought worthy of such a mark of distinction.

## C H A P. XVI.

## INTERNAL COMMERCE.

**I**T is only in a country peopled and cultivated in proportion to its extent, that commerce can be carried to that degree of perfection which is no less profitable to the state than to individuals. Sweden, in an area much greater than that of France, contains only 105 cities; and there are some provinces in which there is not even one. The habitations in the country stand at a considerable distance from each other; nor are there any of those large villages which abound with houses, and where crowds of children are seen sporting around them.

The internal commerce of Sweden would languish still more, had not nature and government rendered the means of communication easy and commodious. The waters which wash and intersect the kingdom, are  
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of great utility for transporting the productions of the soil, and the fruits of industry, from one province or city to another. The Swedes have endeavoured to derive every advantage possible from these waters by digging canals. The oldest of these that which by nine sluices joins lake Klar to lake Hielmar, near the city of Uppsala in Westmania. It was begun under Charles XI. and the breaches made in it by the hand of time have been lately repaired. A small river which runs past Arboga, and throws itself into the Mœlar, tended greatly to facilitate the junction of these two lakes. This canal has established a regular trade between several provinces, and twelve cities, of which Stockholm, Upsal, Wexö, and Arboga are the principal.

If a communication could be formed between lake Hielmar and lake Venner, and if that which exists between the latter and the Northern Sea by the river Gothia could be improved, there would be an uninterrupted course of navigation from Gottenburg to Stockholm; but it has been found, that

## 27 A GENERAL VIEW

thunfurmountable obftacles prevent the  
 juon of thefe two lakes. The Wenner, as  
 weve faid, has a communication with  
 the Northern Sea by the river Gothia; and  
 it wld be of great advantage to internal  
 comrce, if the river were not fo incum-  
 bere with fhools and cataracts, that there  
 are 7 places in which it is navigable.  
 Char IX. caufed a canal to be dug, which  
 is knn by the name of Carlſgraf: the  
 fluiſe Guſtavus III. was conſtructed under  
 the rei of that prince, and veſſels can paſs  
 it witht any difficulty; but the grèateſt  
 obſtacl the falls of Trolhætta, ſtill remain.  
 There e four of them which are remark-  
 able for their violence: the water throws it-  
 ſelf from the height of an hundred feet into  
 a gulph hich the eye cannot behold with-  
 out terror. Charles XII. who always de-  
 lighted in encountering difficulties, under-  
 took to ſubdue nature, and Polhem was  
 commiſſioned to conduct the enterpriſe;  
 but the mſfortunes which the kingdom ex-  
 perienſed ſoon after, made both govern-  
 ment and the engineer abandon the deſign.  
 Being



Being however resumed in the reign of Frederic, it was continued under that of his successor. The work advanced rapidly; Polhem constructed a canal and several locks in the very bed of the river; immense sums were expended, and the nation flattered itself with the hopes of seeing this grand work one day completed; but every effort was vain: Polhem died before he could put the last hand to the execution of his plan; and the locks, which have gradually yielded to the violence of the current, are no longer of any use. They are distinguished by the names of illustrious persons, such as those of Adolphus-Frederic, Tessin, and Ekebald; but the destructive element did not, on that account, pay them the least respect.

Some miles below Trolhætta there are two other falls, those of Okerstrœm and Edit. These obstacles have been overcome; and the locks constructed in order to render this part of the river navigable, are in good condition. A bank of earth, raised at great expence, supplies the deficiencies of nature.

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These efforts of government have had a very striking influence upon the commerce of the western provinces, and particularly upon that of Gottenburg.

Notwithstanding the numerous difficulties which occurred in executing the canal of Trolhætta, it has not been abandoned, and the project has for some years past been pursued on a different plan. This plan is, to dig a canal along the banks of the river; but the marshes, hollows, and rocks which abound on each side of it, give no great reason to hope that it can be speedily or easily finished. It has already cost the nation an immense sum of money. A report has been spread, that Denmark wishes to prevent the execution of an enterprise which tends to diminish the profits arising from the duties of the Sound; but the natural obstacles are alone sufficient to frustrate the hopes of the Swedes. The labour employed upon the canal of Strømsholm has, however, been attended with better success; the locks are already finished, and the canal is navigable. It joins the Hielmar to the  
1 Barken,

Barken, a large lake of Dalecarlia, and facilitates the communication of several provinces, rich in mines and forges, with the capital.

Government has caused canals to be dug also in Finland. This country, of all the provinces of Sweden, is that in which internal commerce languishes most. Several of its districts are separated by woods, marshes and rivers, which can be of no service to navigation; but a plan has been lately formed to drain these marshes, to clear the woods, and to render the rivers navigable. The foundations of three new cities have also been laid: these are Kuopio, Tammerfors and Kaskœ.

The highways which have been formed in Sweden by the hands of men, are very broad and solid: the basis of them consists of rock, stones and gravel. Every one who possesses land must contribute towards the support of these roads, and repair them every year immediately before harvest. An attempt has been made to establish waggons between Stockholm and

Scandia ; but those who undertook to carry this plan into execution found that it would not answer. The post for conveying letters was regulated under the reign of queen Christina ; it is conducted by a certain number of peasants, who farm lands from the crown. These lands are called *Posthemman*, and in virtue of their destination are exempted from many burthens. The mail may be often seen in the hands of a child, who, calmly seated on his horse or cart, and fearing no danger, conveys it with perfect security from one place to another. This is a remarkable circumstance, which does honour to the national character of the Swedes; for there are few countries in which the mail can be forwarded in this manner. When a conveyance cannot be had by water, it is made in winter on the snow, by means of a light sledge, which is exceedingly commodious, and costs very little. Ore, wood and coals are thus transported to the different forges ; and the principal fairs are held in winter on account of this convenience.

C H A P.

## CHAP. XVII.

## FOREIGN COMMERCE.

NATURE has distributed her gifts with the greatest diversity throughout the globe which we inhabit. Man, by the aid of those faculties which distinguish him from other creatures, has comprehended the intentions of that beneficent mother; his genius has found out happy combinations, and his courage and address have surmounted great obstacles. What monuments of his grandeur and glory! Seas traversed, and the most distant regions brought together, and exchanging their various productions!

The Swedes formerly navigated those seas with which their country is washed, in order to exercise piracy. When their manners became softened by a certain degree of civilization, they renounced these excursions; but they did not immediately

substitute in their room the study of commerce, or a regular maritime trade. The Hanse towns, then numerous and flourishing, held the sceptre of the Baltic. Lubeck, above all, made Sweden pay very heavy duties; but Gustavus I. broke these chains so galling and so disgraceful. This monarch had at heart the glory as well as the prosperity of his subjects, and there was no abuse which he did not reform. The Lubeckers, who had exercised a despotic empire in the ports of the kingdom, were deprived of their privileges, and Swedish vessels appeared in the Baltic and the Northern Seas. The sons of Gustavus I. did not extend the progress of national commerce, and it continued to languish under the reigns of Eric XIV. John III. and Charles IX. These princes had not the happiness of inscribing their names among the benefactors of their country.

Gustavus Adolphus wishing to enlarge the Swedish commerce, and to give it a degree of activity which it had not been before susceptible of, a company, whose expeditions

ditions were to extend to Asia, Africa and America, was established in 1627. Several Swedes went over to the new continent, and settled in the neighbourhood of the river Delaware: their numbers soon increased, and in 1631 they built fort Christina, to which the court sent a governor and a garrison. These colonists lived peaceably, and prospered in their new country during the whole of Christina's reign; but their happiness was disturbed, when Charles Gustavus undertook that war which armed all the North against him. The Dutch, taking advantage of the times, seized upon the Swedish possessions in America; and Charles, too much engaged in opposing the Danes and the Poles, not being able to assist his American subjects, the vigilant Batavians enjoyed in peace the fruits of their rapacity. These possessions, so easily conquered, were afterwards taken by the English, who lost them in their turn when they lost the thirteen provinces, now become independent. At the same period, and on the same occasion, the Swedes ac-

quired some places on the coast of Guinea; but they were deprived of these also, partly by the Dutch and partly by the Danes. The company which Gustavus Adolphus had established, being affected by these misfortunes, did not long subsist. It appears, however, that government was seriously engaged at that epoch, in devising such means as were most likely to render commerce flourishing, and that it was war alone which retarded its progress: the college of commerce was founded; the value of money was fixed; and encouragement was given to manufactures.

Charles XI. held the sceptre a long time, and under the shade of a peace which was not disturbed but in the beginning of his reign. This prince, who was fond of employing his thoughts on objects of public utility, and who understood them thoroughly, pursued wise measures well calculated to extend commerce. A code of maritime laws was formed; the custom-house duties were fixed by a tariff; and the Swedes appeared with loaded vessels in the principal



pal ports of Europe. It was even in agitation to open a regular trade between Sweden and Persia, by means of the rivers in Estonia and Livonia; but this plan was never brought to maturity. Charles XII. who loved and was acquainted with nothing but war, abandoned all the rest of the arts to their fate; and the misfortunes which his enterprizes brought upon the state entirely ruined commerce. For five years successively no Swedish ship could put to sea, and Holland supplied the country with such articles as it had occasion for from foreign places. In 1723, the whole shipping of Sweden in the merchant service did not exceed an hundred vessels. The privilege of being free from the duties of the Sound, a valuable advantage for Sweden, was lost by the peace which the Swedes were obliged to make with Denmark.

After the death of Charles XII. the economical system experienced a very remarkable revolution. The Swedes opened their eyes to their own interests, and began to  
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know them. Since that epoch their commerce has increased very rapidly, especially of late years: they carry it on entirely themselves, and their flag is known on the most distant shores. Their vessels, which are well built, are numerous, and procure them considerable gain for freight, and by coasting voyages. By the act of navigation, published in 1738, foreign nations cannot send to Sweden, in their own bottoms, but their own productions, or those of their colonies; and they are subjected besides to certain duties which are not paid by the natives of the country.

The mines, forests, and waters of Sweden furnish the principal articles of exportation. It exports, one year with another, between 300 and 330,000 *schp.* of iron. Bar iron, pig iron, iron hoops, steel, wrought iron, cannons, and iron bullets constitute this lucrative part of foreign commerce: the price of bar iron is between five and six rix-dollars per *schp.* The Swedes have been apprehensive of being outrivalled by Russia in this branch; but the acknowledged

ledged superiority of the Swedish iron has always kept up its price, and the demand for it continues to be very great. The exportation of copper has however suffered by the rivalry of the English, who for some years past have had a plentiful supply of this metal. Pure copper was formerly sold at the rate of forty rix-dollars per *schp.*; at present it brings only thirty, and it is found difficult to dispose of it even at that rate. Sheet copper and brass are still in request: this branch of commerce is in a thriving condition. According to a table published by Count de Lillienberg, formerly president of the college of mines, the iron and copper entered at the different ports of Sweden, in order to be exported, produced, from the year 1760 to 1779, the sum of 46,152,962 rix-dollars. The Swedes export annually about 150,000 dozen of planks; 2,474 dozen of joists; 4,550 beams; 97,000 tons of pitch and tar; and 4000 tons of wood-ashes and pot-ashes. The exportation of herrings amounts, one year with another, to 160,000 tons: that of herring oil  
increases

increases more and more, and brings an annual gain of five or six thousand rix-dollars. The articles of re-exportation are not very numerous : the most important are furnished by the East India company.

If Sweden possesses many objects of exportation, those which it imports are equally numerous. Some of these are absolutely necessary ; but others of them are sought for only in consequence of those factitious wants created by luxury, which are daily increasing in every country of the world. Sweden imports sometimes 500,000 tons of grain ; it has occasion also for 280,000 tons of salt one year with another ; and it expends immense sums for wines, stuffs, leather, tallow, hemp, sugar, coffee, tea, tobacco, and other articles of provision. It has been proved by the custom-house registers, that the corn, coffee, tea and tobacco annually imported, cost more than a million of rix-dollars.

Let us follow the Swedish flag to the different coasts which it visits. The Baltic is naturally the grand resource of the Swedes.

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They have occasion for hemp, tallow, hides, corn, and several other objects, which Russia, Courland, Prussia, and the northern parts of Germany possess in abundance ; but the iron, copper, steel, lime-stone, alum, and herrings which it gives in return, are not equivalent in value to the articles it receives : there is always a balance against it of 150 or 200,000 rix-dollars. With Denmark and Norway it gains ; but this gain is absorbed by the contraband trade carried on near the frontiers of the latter. The commerce of Sweden, on the German and Western Oceans, extends to Holland, England, France, Spain, and Portugal. The Dutch furnish it with spices, tobacco, colours and paper ; and in return take iron, and some other of its productions ; but in too small quantities to leave a balance in its favour. Sweden sends to the ports of France iron, steel, copper, brass, iron and brass wire, planks and pitch, and brings back wine, salt, coarse sugar and fruit. This trade is generally profitable ; “ but if we

“ fums which the Swedifh youth fpend in  
“ France, and thofe confumed by the ftuffs,  
“ fashions and toys, which are brought us  
“ from that country in fo great abundance,  
“ and which for the moft part are fmug-  
“ gled into the kingdom, we fhall find that  
“ there is no profit at all.” Sweden then,  
it will be faid, lofes every where: but we  
fhall fhew that it gains alfo. From En-  
gland it procures lead, tin, leather, beer,  
butter, cheefe, and coals, to the amount of  
nearly 100,000 rix-dollars all together: in  
return, it fells to the Englifh iron, copper,  
pitch, planks, and herrings, to the value of  
almoft a million of rix-dollars; fo that it  
derives a profit from this trade fufficient to  
compenfate it for feveral loffes. It gains  
confiderably alfo by Spain and Portugál,  
which do not pay, with the falt, wines,  
and wool purchafed in their ports by the  
Swedes, for the iron, cannon, copper,  
planks, nails and pitch, which in return  
they take from Sweden.

The Swedifh fhips frequent alfo the Me-  
diterranean. They carry to Italy and the  
Levant

Levant the principal articles which they export, above all artillery, and bring back salt, fruit, spiceries, cotton, and cotton and linen cloth: in such voyages they bring great profit to their owners for freight. These vessels, built and commanded by heretics, conveyed to Italy those Jesuits whom Spain and Portugal wished to get rid of. In the year 1738, government granted the exclusive privilege of the Levant trade to a company, who shewed neither that knowledge nor activity which were necessary for accomplishing the proposed end. This company was suppressed in 1756, and an idea was long entertained of forming a new one; but it was at last given up, and the trade to the Levant is now entirely free.

The dissolution of the East India company, which was sacrificed to political views, gave rise to that of Sweden established at Gottenburg: this city was chosen, because its port is generally open during the whole year. Henry Kœning and company obtained a charter for fifteen years, on condition

dition of their paying sixteen rix-dollars thirty-two schellings per last to government. This charter, on its expiration, was renewed for twenty years, and the company engaged to pay to government 8,333 rix-dollars for every successful voyage: in 1753 they acquired a permanent fund. From the year 1731, the epoch when they began, to 1766, the year in which their second charter expired, they built twenty-two vessels, which performed sixty-one voyages to Bengal and China: fifty-six of these voyages were successful, and produced, one year with another, a clear profit of 40½ per cent.

This company was succeeded by another who obtained a charter for twenty years; a term which has expired lately. This company paid to government 12,500 rix-dollars for every vessel that arrived safe in the port of Gottenburg; thirty tons of gold, under the name of a premium, and twenty under the name of a loan without interest: they sent two vessels every year to China, and their profits were considerable, and have even



even increased. The directors gained the approbation of the public, by the useful alterations which they made in the management of their affairs: these changes were necessary; and they occasioned considerable savings, which have turned out greatly to the advantage of those concerned.

A new East India company has been formed, which obtained a charter for twenty years, and, like the former, engaged to pay 12,500 rix-dollars to government. Foreigners, as well as natives, may purchase a share in this company: they receive every necessary security.

The Swedish vessels which perform the voyage to China are generally of four hundred lasts burden; they carry one hundred and fifty men, and draw 300,000 piaſtres at Cadiz. These vessels carry out some of the productions of Sweden, and return richly laden with tea, coffee, silk, porcelain, and cotton stuffs. These articles, however, do not all remain in the country: the Dutch, the English, and the Danes purchase the greater part of them; and, one year with

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another,

another, the company draw from foreign nations above a million of rix-dollars for the merchandise they import in their vessels. This is their truest gain, and the real advantage which the kingdom derives from its trade to the East Indies.

The acquisition of the island of St. Bartholomew gave rise to a West India company. Its charter is dated October 31, 1786: it pays nothing to the crown, and forms a fund by subscription. The island of St. Bartholomew has a governor, and a garrison: a council, of which the governor is the chief, has been also established there, to second the operations of this rising company. In the year 1774, a company was formed for carrying on the whale fishery: it still subsists, but in such a languishing condition, that it will be a work of difficulty to revive it: active and powerful rivals will always raise up obstacles, and fetter its efforts.

It is only by renouncing imaginary wants, and the caprices of luxury, and by calculating its gains with scrupulous exactness, that

that a country little favoured by nature can support the balance of a foreign trade. Sweden imports from different nations a quantity of merchandise, which must appear astonishing when we see a statement of it; and our surprise will be still increased when we are informed, that it is all introduced by fraud. For a long time, therefore, the trade of Sweden was far from being advantageous to the kingdom; but for twenty years past, the balance seems to have inclined in its favour. The gain arising from the lucrative sales of the East India company, and from the freight of vessels, which during the American war was very productive, may have compensated for the losses occasioned by the excess of importation.

The staple cities only have a right of carrying on foreign trade; but it is doubtful whether this regulation be really advantageous to the kingdom. All Finland was deprived, until 1756, of the privilege of going beyond the Baltic, and of carrying its own productions in its own bottoms to foreign nations. A country so little advanced

in that preliminary knowledge, which serves as a guide to human industry, can hardly be supposed capable of dealing to advantage with strangers: it appears, that it must necessarily lose instead of gaining; and perhaps it may suddenly be made acquainted with that luxury, which is dangerous even to those nations that fall into it insensibly.

Stockholm stands at the head of the commercial cities of Sweden. The situation of this capital, washed on one side by the waters of the Baltic, and on the other by those of the Mælar, is extremely commodious; and it affords the ready means of collecting such articles as are fit for exportation, and of distributing those which are brought from foreign countries, throughout the interior parts of the kingdom. The trade of Stockholm employs six or seven hundred vessels. The harbour, though the avenues to it are rendered difficult by innumerable rocks and islands, possesses great advantages: ships there find themselves in the heart of the city; the custom-house is situated close to it, and vessels can be unloaded

loaded with the greatest facility, and without the least embarrassment. Near the harbour, a warehouse in the form of a vault has been constructed, in which the principal articles of exportation are deposited. This warehouse on one side touches the Mælar, and on the other the sea: it contains large quantities of iron, copper and pitch. A little farther, but still along the harbour, stand piles of beams, planks and rafters, placed there to be ready to load vessels. For this useful establishment Stockholm is indebted to a citizen, who made a very conspicuous figure in Sweden. A thorough knowledge of business, and an activity seldom to be met with, raised Kierman to the highest degree of credit to which an individual without birth and without titles can arrive; he was one of the chiefs of the party of the hats, and at the diet of 1756 he made the partisans of the court sensible of the ascendancy which his wealth and talents had procured him. Several works of evident utility, which he caused to be executed with success, gave him an undisputed

right to the gratitude of his country ; but in the midst of those contests which arise between opposite factions, the lot of the citizen, who engages in such dangerous scenes, is subject to strange vicissitudes. The caps having got possession of that power which the hats had long enjoyed, every thing assumed a new appearance. Kierman experienced the sad effects of political hatred and resentment : the greater part of his goods were confiscated, and he himself was condemned to pass the remainder of his days in a fortress, where he died a little before the revolution of 1772.

Gottenburg, next to Stockholm, carries on the most extensive trade in Sweden. This city, situated between the Baltic and the Northern Sea, has this advantage over the capital, that its port is seldom shut up by the ice. Gustavus Adolphus granted it several privileges, which it still enjoys, and which have greatly tended to render it flourishing : a great many Englishmen, Germans, and Dutchmen have settled here under the auspices of civil and religious liberty,

berty. The trade carried on in Gottenburg employs from five to six hundred vessels: the most considerable article which it exports is herring oil. As the East India company have their offices and warehouses at this place, it enjoys the principal profit of a very thriving branch of commerce.

Norkœping, in Ostrogothia, has an excellent harbour, exports a great deal of brass, and disperses throughout the southern provinces several necessary articles, which its vessels bring from France and other countries. Gefle, in Gestrikeland, is also a very commercial city: it exports one year with another 24,000 *schp.* of iron. The trade of Obo, Landscrona, Christianstad, Uddevalla and Carlshamn increase every day; but, notwithstanding the efforts of all the other staple cities, Stockholm and Gottenburg still preserve a decided superiority. It is not long since Stockholm exported 7-13ths, and Gottenburg 2-13ths, of the produce of all Sweden: there remained, therefore, no more than 4-13ths to the rest of the cities. The importation was

divided in such a manner, that half came to Stockholm, 1-4th to Gottenburg, and 1-4th to the other cities.

On a rock, much like the island of Ithaca, as described by Homer, stands the city of Marstrand, which by an edict of the king in 1775 was declared a free port. The principal regulations established on this occasion were as follow :

All merchandise, both foreign and Swedish, may be freely imported into Marstrand, and there deposited and consumed ; every article, of whatever denomination, may be in the like manner exported in any vessel, and without any restriction whatever.

All merchandise carried from the port of Marstrand to any other port of the kingdom, shall be inspected, and taxed, as if it had come from a foreign port.

All Swedish merchandise exported from Marstrand, shall pay the same duties as if they were exported from any other port of Sweden to a foreign country.

All merchandise imported to Marstrand, shall pay one half per cent. ; goods exported shall



shall pay only 1-4th : the half of these duties shall go to the crown, and the rest to the city of Marstrand. All merchants and others, who may choose to establish themselves at Marstrand, shall enjoy the free exercise of their religion, and shall be restrained in that point by no regulations whatever.

The inhabitants of Marstrand, whether foreigners or natives, shall be exempted from all taxes, except those of the excise imposed on liquors and provisions. Every foreigner who purchases or builds a house at Marstrand, of the value of a thousand crowns bank money, shall be considered as naturalised, after he has been in possession of it for two years.

Foreigners established at Marstrand shall pay nothing to the crown when they leave the kingdom of Sweden. Whoever takes refuge at Marstrand for debt, or even for crimes which are not capital, shall be there in safety, and no one shall be allowed to touch either his person or his effects.

The views of government, notwithstanding

ing these advantages, have not yet been answered. The port continues free ; but Marstrand is neither well peopled nor much frequented. Some assert, that it has hitherto served only to encourage smuggling.

To furnish merchants with a new motive for extending their commerce, an office for marine insurance was opened in 1739. This establishment, which possesses the confidence of the public, was divided into a thousand shares of 166 $\frac{2}{3}$  rix-dollars each, and is under the management of four directors, chosen from among the members by the members themselves.

The company of divers is another establishment, useful to commerce, which ought not to be passed over in silence. It was authorised to exercise its functions in 1734, by letters patent from the king and the states ; and it obtained new privileges in 1739 and 1741. This company keeps, on all the coasts of the kingdom, people who, on the first news of a vessel being wrecked, hasten to the spot, and endeavour to save whatever part of the cargo they can. After  
this,

this, the company informs the proprietors and insurers of the event which has taken place : the latter having signified their pleasure, the effects saved are disposed of ; and the company, after deducting their expences, and what compensation they are entitled to, transmit them the balance. If this establishment is attended with advantages on the one hand, it has its inconveniencies on the other. Disputes have more than once arisen between the company and the proprietors, or insurers, which have produced law-suits, and furnished an ample field for the rapacity of the lawyers

## C H A P. XVIII.

FINANCES, MONEY, WEIGHTS, AND  
MEASURES.

**I**F we wish to be convinced of the fatal effects arising from confusion in the public finances of a country, and how necessary information, exactness, method, and vigilance are in this part of administration, we must read the annals of Sweden.

In the last century, the value of the silver coin was changed, and by this measure the state suffered a considerable loss. Charles XII. again introduced copper money, which had been current in former times; but as the pieces coined were exceedingly large, they were highly inconvenient for the ordinary purposes of life. The public treasure being absorbed by war, and Charles wishing to continue it, whatever it might cost, baron Goertz, fruitful in expedients, proposed to alter the value of copper, and to give it that of silver: hence arose that

money of distress, the nature of which is expressed by its name. This money multiplied to such a degree, that on the death of the king there were above six millions of rix-dollars of it in circulation. The donation which France gave to Sweden, and the sums received as an indemnification for the ceded provinces, served as a palliative, but not as a remedy; and it was so much the more difficult to extricate the finances from the disagreeable situation in which they were, as the balance did not by any means incline in favour of Sweden.

In 1726, bank notes payable to the bearer were introduced; and the reason assigned for this innovation was, the great advantage which would thence result to internal circulation. The sums specified in these notes were lessened in proportion as specie disappeared; and the course of exchange soon shewed the effects that such an operation must naturally produce. The evil increased, for reasons easily guessed: the bank was solicited to lend to the crown, as well as to individuals, and the copper money was exported

ported by the permission of government ; but the value of that copper was not returned in silver as had been agreed.

The mass of paper daily increased, and the exchange occasioned enormous losses. To render it more favourable, and to remedy the irregular and uncertain course of internal commerce, government created offices of exchange ; but by this measure it did not accomplish its end : private interest and unsuccessful speculations rendered its views abortive, while the situation of affairs remained always the same. The two wars which the kingdom had to support cost several millions, and were an addition to the national misfortunes. In 1765 the bank had a claim upon government and individuals for 735 tons of gold ; in 1762 the exchange with Hamburgh was 108 marks per crown banco. In this distressing situation government began to think seriously of retrieving the affairs of the nation, and many plans were proposed ; but obstacles still occurred to impede the execution of them.

In

In 1776 the present king adopted the plan of baron Lilliecrantz. By loans procured in other countries, the state added, to the real property which the bank already possessed, four millions and a half of rix-dollars; and the copper which the crown receives under the name of a tythe was employed for the same purpose. The execution of this new plan was attended with the less difficulty, as foreigners did not withdraw their capitals too hastily, and as commerce, which was very profitable during the whole of the American war, brought large sums into the country. To render this system of realization more efficacious, government paid with specie, in the year 1777, part of the civil and military appointments of the state; the old notes were called in, and the bank returned the full value of them in copper. The new ones are all in rix-dollars: the least of them is worth two. This measure of government may have perhaps been attended with little advantage to more than one individual; but the welfare of the public required it, and they endeavoured to

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heal the wound in such a manner as might be least painful. The specie in circulation at present may amount to nine or ten millions of rix-dollars. The legal interest of money is six per cent. The bank of Stockholm is worthy the attention of all those who study the economical interests of nations. It was founded in 1657, and renewed in 1668: the plan of it was formed by a Livonian, named Palmstruck; and the states of the kingdom, except the order of peasants, who refused to have any share in this prerogative, are the directors of it. They appoint deputies, who take care to support the internal economy of the establishment, and who are responsible to inspectors, appointed also by the states when they assemble. The bank is divided into several offices, viz. the chancery, the fiscal's office, the exchange bank, the numbering and noting-office, the loan office, the office of revision, and that for issuing notes. Each of these offices is under the direction of one or more commissaries. The bank has a paper manufactory of its own near Stockholm,



holm, and it keeps in constant pay a letter-founder and an engraver. Government has granted it full jurisdiction over all those whom it employs; but it refers such lawsuits as it may be engaged in with individuals to the royal court of Stockholm. All the public establishments, except the mint, keep their books at the exchange bank, through which all the revenues of the state must consequently pass. Individuals may there deposit their capitals, and draw them out when they have occasion for them, on paying one quarter per cent. to the clerks. The loan office gives its assignments on that of exchange. Loans on lands and houses have ceased; but people may still borrow on iron, copper, and silver plate, at the rate of four per cent. which affords a very valuable resource for merchants and tradesmen. The riches of the Swedish bank have never been known: this is a state secret; but it may be easily perceived, that it might have gained considerably, on the one hand, by its advances, and that, on the other, specie constitutes

only a small part of the fund which it possesses. The profit which it has derived, and still derives, from notes lost or burnt, is said to amount to very large sums. It never lends, either to the crown or to individuals, without having every necessary security. The credit, therefore, which the bank of Stockholm possesses, both in Sweden and in foreign countries is real and solid. This credit will be preserved as long as the directors never deviate from the system hitherto adopted, the wisdom of which has been fully proved by long experience.

To give fresh vigour to commerce and industry, government in 1773 permitted a society to establish at Stockholm a discount office, which, on the expiration of its charter, was converted into a *royal discount office*. Its regulations are dated April 13th, 1787: it ought to have a fund of 400,000 rix dollars.

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THE money used in Sweden is :

The gold ducat, worth 1 rix dollar 46  
schelling.

The

The silver rix dollar, of 48 schell. an imaginary coin of 6 dalr. of silver, or 18 dalr. of copper, also imaginary money: the value of the  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{12}$ , and  $\frac{1}{24}$ , of a rix dollar is in proportion.

The copper enkel flant, or simple stiver, of 3 runstychens, or œre.

The double flant, or double stiver of 6 runst. or œre.

The œre, or runstychen, 12 of which make a schelling.

The course of exchange in Sweden, according to the ordonnance of 1776, is as follows:

On Amsterdam, 45 schell. more or less, contain 1 rix dollar exchange.

Copenhagen, 100 rix dollars specie, 124 rix dollars exchange.

Spain, 41 schellings, 1 ducat exchange.

Hamburgh,  $47\frac{1}{2}$  schell. 1 rix dollar banco.

Lisbon, 22 schell. 1 crusadoe of 400 reas.

Leghorn, 47 schell. 1 pezza of 8 ryals.

London, 4 rix dollars 15 schell. 1 pound sterling.

Paris, 25 schell. 1 ecu of 60 fous Tournois.

Straelfund, 100 rix dol. specie, 133 rix dol. of Pomerania.

These exchanges vary according to the balance of trade.

The ordonnance of 1664 is still observed for the value of the different coins.

62 ducats are made from a gold mark weighing 23 carats 5 grains.

8 rix dollars are made from a mark of silver weighing 14 lods 1 grain: the fractions are omitted.

The mark for assaying gold is divided into 24 carats, and the carat into 15 grains.

The mark for assaying silver is divided into 16 lods, and the lod into 18 grains.

Silver plate, in Sweden, is of the fineness of  $13\frac{1}{4}$  lods, which corresponds to 9 deniers  $22\frac{1}{2}$  grains; but from this  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a lod is deducted on account of the variation.

The mark for weighing gold and silver consists of 16 lods, 64 grains, or 4,384 as.

The pile, a weight for weighing ducats,  
is

is equivalent to 3 ounces, 5 drachms, 10 grains of France.

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THERE are four weights used in commerce in Sweden.

First, the weight of provisions, *viſtualie vikt*.

Secondly, the weight used in the mines, *bergverks vikt*.

Thirdly, the weight used in towns, and in the country, *land och ſtad vikt*.

Fourthly, the ſtaple weight used for iron, *järn och ſtapel vikt*.

Besides theſe, there are weights used only for medicine.

A pound, called ſkolpund, used for provisions, contains 8,848 as.

The mark used in the mines makes  $7,821\frac{7}{25}$  as.

The mark used in cities, and in the country, makes  $7,450\frac{2}{25}$  as.

The ſtaple mark makes  $7078\frac{2}{5}$  as.

A ſcheppund makes 20 liſpund, and a liſpund makes 20 ſkolpund.

X 3

A ſkeppund,

A skeppund of iron makes only 16 lifpund of 20 pounds to the lifpund.

A quintal, or hundred weight, makes 120 pounds, and 1 pound makes 32 lods, or 132 drachms of  $69\frac{1}{2}$  as each.

The apothecaries pound weighs 7416 as.

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THE tun for measuring corn, salt, and other dry goods, gauges  $\frac{5}{3}$  cubic feet of Sweden, which are equivalent to 7386 cubic inches of France. This measure is divided into 2 spans, 8 fyrtles, 32 cappes, 56 cannes, 112 stopes, 448 quarters, and 1,792 øert, or jungfru.

The tun for moist goods, such as flesh, fish, and meal, contains 48 cannes; for pitch and tar 1 tun contains  $48\frac{1}{2}$  cannes, of 100 cubic inches to the canne.

A tun of salt herrings contains 1000 fish.  
 $21\frac{1}{2}$  Swedish tuns make a Hamburgh last.

A last of pitch and tar contains 13 tuns.  
 — of Spanish and French salt 18 tuns,  
 — of dried fish, 12 tuns.

A last

A laft of hemp, flax, cordage, or hops, 6 fchep. or 120 lifp. Swedifh.

The foulder, or fat, is divided into 2 pipes, 4 oxhœfd, 6 ahm, 12 æmbar, 24 ankar, 360 cannes, 720 ftopes, 2,880 quarters, and 11,520 jungfru.

The can, or pot, a Swedifh meafure for liquids, gauges  $172\frac{4}{5}$  cubic inches of Sweden, which are equivalent to 132 cubic inches of France.

THE Swedifh foot is to that of France, as 10,000 to 10,943.

The toife, or famn, contains 6 feet.

The perch, or ruta, contains 16 feet.

The ell, aln, is two feet, and meafures  $263\frac{1}{5}$  lines of France.

The Swedifh mile is reckoned to contain 18,000 Swedifh ells, which are equivalent to  $5,483\frac{1}{5}$  toifes of France, and  $10\frac{3}{5}$  of thefe miles make a degree of the equator.

The furveyors office divides the foot into 10 inches of 10 lines to the inch; but

the inch is generally reckoned to contain 12 lines.

A Swedish square mile is 1,296,000,000 square feet, or 324,000,000 square ells Swedish.



## C H A P. XIX.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION.

**I**T is highly pleasing to a benevolent mind to see governments, when become more active and generous, encouraging the useful arts, and opening to industry new sources of happiness and prosperity. There is an object, however, of much greater consequence, which has not yet engaged their attention in a manner suitable to its importance. Let them first endeavour to inspire mankind with proper sentiments and principles. Let them give life and dignity to public education, by the direct influence of their care. Prejudices will then decrease; the seeds of virtue, more diffused, will produce fruit; we shall see fewer of those unthinking mortals, who without guide, and without direction, hasten to destruction: in a word, the world will be much happier.

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The universities in Sweden, as in other countries, are at the head of those establishments which are destined for public education. The oldest, that of Upsal, was founded in 1476, by Steno Sture the elder, whose conduct as regent rendered Sweden flourishing, at a time when it seemed to be destined only to misfortunes and misery. The university of Upsal languished for some time amidst those troubles and bloody catastrophes, which took place soon after its establishment. Gustavus I. paid the utmost attention to this institution; but it was entirely neglected by his sons. Gustavus Adolphus revived it in the beginning of his reign, and, having assigned certain funds for its support, provided it with able masters, the greater part of whom were invited from foreign countries. Locenius, well versed in the antiquities of the North; Freinsheimius, known by his commentaries on several ancient authors, and his supplements to Livy; and Scheffer, an universal scholar, whose researches were directed by sound criticism, all taught at Upsal. Olaus Rudbeck,

beck, a native of Sweden, and author of that celebrated dissertation on the northern antiquities, a work as remarkable for the erudition it displays, as for the hypotheses and conjectures it contains, distinguished himself there also at the same time. In this century, Linnæus, Celsus, Wallerius, and Klingshierna, all born in Sweden, have acquired a most brilliant reputation to the university of Upsal. Among the present professors, Thunberg, Melanderhielm, Prosperin, and others, are well known by their learning and abilities. The illustrious Bergman is now no more; he died at an early period of life, a victim to his zeal for labour and study. His fate gives us reason to lament, that those mortals who do honour to humanity, and who are an ornament to the earth, rarely attain to the utmost boundaries of life. Mr. Thunberg possesses a cabinet which is highly worthy of being seen: it contains several curiosities brought from Japan; such as dresses, tools, utensils, and coins of that country, in which this learned Swedish naturalist resided for some time.

The

The library of the university of Upsal is a collection as valuable on account of the number as the choice of the books it contains: it abounds, above all, with works on natural history. A manuscript of Edda, which is accounted the best copy of that ancient theological code, is preserved here. The *Codex Argenteus*, another treasure belonging to this library, is a translation of the four gospels into the Mæso-Gothic language, by Ulphilas bishop of the Goths, in the fourth century. The gold and silver letters in this *codex* have given rise to many conjectures: it appears that they are fixed to the parchment by means of some kind of encaustic.

The university of Upsal has a botanical garden, rendered celebrated by the care bestowed on it by Linnæus. Passionately fond of this science, which he cultivated, and being seconded in his efforts by government, this great naturalist neglected no opportunity of storing it with every curious object that the vegetable kingdom contains in the four quarters of the world. Those plants

which can stand the climate of the north, are placed in the open air ; the rest are distributed in different departments, where they enjoy that degree of heat which is necessary to make them prosper.

The observatory owes its origin to Andrew Celsius. The foundation of it is now shaken, and on that account observations cannot be made with that accuracy which is requisite. The anatomical theatre has been lately built, and is extremely well adapted for the use to which it is destined. The economical theatre contains models of instruments, invented by the genius of man, to assist the labours of agriculture and industry. The chemical elaboratory seems worthy of more attention than is at present bestowed on it. Wallerius and Bergman both wrought in it : the apparatus is extensive, commodious, and well arranged.

The professors chairs are very numerous : that of the economical sciences does honour to the states who founded it, about the middle of the present century. The study of those sciences is undoubtedly much more  
useful

useful than that of the mysterious subtleties and barren discussions of the schools. The students are in number about five hundred; they live very quietly, and never give themselves up to those shameful excesses which so often disgrace the votaries of the Muses in other countries.

The university of Obo, in Finland, was founded in the year 1640, during the minority of queen Christina; it has a pretty large library, for the greater part of which it is indebted to Mr. Arkenholz, author of the memoirs of that singular princess. Mr. Lexel was a professor here at the time when he was invited to Petersburg; he died in that capital, and the sciences still lament their loss. There is a third university at Lund, in Scandia, which was founded in 1660, under the minority of Charles XI. Soon after its institution, this university reckoned amongst the number of its professors the celebrated Samuel Puffendorf. When his learned work on the *Laws of Nature and Nations* appeared, two of his colleagues treated him in the same manner

as Lange afterwards treated Wolf. Having first done every thing in their power privately to molest him, they represented him to the king as the author of a dangerous system; but Charles XI. listening to the voice of reason, silenced the persecutors, and protected the object of their envy and rancour. Bicornsthohl, known by his travels, an ample relation of which has been published, was professor of the Oriental languages at Lund: he has been succeeded by Mr. Norberg, who is extremely well versed in the same kind of erudition. Mr. de Lagerbring, professor of history, and well known by his historical productions, has lately paid the debt of nature. Mr. Retzius, who teaches natural history, has written several works which abound with new and curious observations.

These universities are under the direction of a chancellor, a vice-chancellor, and the academic council, composed of the professors. Adolphus-Frederic was chancellor of that of Upsal, before he mounted the throne: Gustavus III. imitated his ex-

ample ; and Gustavus Adolphus, the presumptive heir to the crown, is invested with the same dignity. The greater part of the fixed salaries which the professors enjoy are assigned to them on lands : this arrangement saves expence to the public treasury ; but it occasions embarrassment to the masters, and engages so much of their attention, as must tend greatly to interrupt them in the discharge of their most essential duties.

The method which they follow in giving lessons is almost the same as that employed in the German universities : they seldom read lectures in the Latin language, as the Swedish has been substituted in its place. Government, and several individuals, have established pensions in favour of young people, whose talents are not seconded by fortune.

Next to the universities are the colleges, distinguished, as in Germany, by the name of *gymnasia* : they are dispersed throughout all the provinces ; but the greater part of them are situated in those towns in  
which



which there is a bishop, and a consistory. There are none, however, in the capital, which undoubtedly ought not to be destitute of such institutions. The masters who teach in these colleges are called lecturers. Besides these, there are a great number of schools, both in the cities and in the country; but as these different institutions have not followed the progress of knowledge, they cannot produce those effects which their founders intended. The colleges and schools are frequented only by the children of the lower classes; those of the higher ranks receive a domestic education until they are fit to be sent to the university. This mode of education may have its advantages, but it is attended also with great inconveniences. It is rarely entrusted to persons properly qualified to direct young people in their studies; it does not destroy the prejudices of pride, by confounding different ranks and conditions; and it leaves no field for emulation, one of the greatest incentives that can be employed to im-

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prove

prove the faculties of man. Under the reign of Adolphus-Frederic, the states founded a school for marine cadets at Carlscrona; but it was with great difficulty that this institution could be thoroughly established; and even at present it is not extensive enough to procure any real and sensible advantage to the country.

The influence of the female sex on the happiness of society is very evident, and on this account the greatest care ought to be bestowed on their education. There are few countries, however, in which this essential object has attained to that degree of perfection to which it is capable of being carried. In Sweden, the daughters of the peasant and the artist are instructed in public schools; those of a higher rank are educated in boarding schools, or the parents engage governesses for them, and keep them at home under their own inspection. They are generally very fond of having French women for this purpose; but it often happens that persons are chosen who are very ill qualified for the office they undertake,  
and

and who possess no other merit than that of speaking French.

In the beginning of this century, government formed a resolution of founding an academy, in which young ladies of quality to whom fortune had been unfavourable might find an honourable asylum, and receive an education suitable to their birth; but this plan was soon abandoned, as other cares absorbed the zeal, and engaged the attention of those who proposed it. When Louisa Ulrica, wife of the presumptive heir to the throne, came to Sweden, she wished to give her new country a proof of her attachment. She therefore resumed this project, and caused a commission to be appointed for carrying it into execution, over which she herself presided. St. Cyr was taken as a model, and it was agreed, that a community of young ladies should be established at Wadstena. Circumstances, however, did not permit this plan to be followed, and it was found necessary to think of another not so extensive, which might be attended with less expence. In this view

a fund was formed by subscription, the interest of which was destined for establishing boarding schools, for a certain number of ladies of quality, to be chosen by lots: as a mark of distinction, they wear the cypher of Louisa Ulrica suspended from a blue ribband. A house has lately been opened at Norkœping, in which six young ladies are educated gratis, and six more on paying a very small salary. For this foundation Sweden is indebted to the munificence of count Charles de Scheffer, and some other generous citizens of the order of the nobility.

Convinced that public education has an influence in the most direct manner over public felicity, government have established a commission for the express purpose of bringing to perfection so important an object.—This commission sits at Stockholm. There is also in that capital a society for the improvement of education, who publish elementary books, and other useful works. This society was first established by Mr. Gjœrvell, librarian to the king.

C H A P.

## CHAP. XX.

NATIONAL CHARACTER, MANNERS AND  
CUSTOMS.

**T**HOUGH Sweden is covered with rocks, woods, and mountains, its inhabitants are mild and peaceable. Theft, murder, robbery, and atrocious crimes, in general, are very uncommon amongst them; and even in war, they do not appear to be sanguinary. Every traveller, who traverses their country, must pay a tribute of gratitude and esteem to their attention, disinterestedness and hospitality. Naturally serious and grave, they are acquainted with, and cultivate the valuable bonds of sociability. Under the most simple external appearance, they conceal a profound judgment, an acute and delicate genius, and often an active and intrepid spirit. They long made a conspicuous figure by their military exploits, and they have since proved, that they are equally

fit for the arts of peace. They are very fond of travelling; but at the same time, they love their country, never forget it, and always long to see it again. With an irresistible inclination for liberty, they are attached to their masters, and majesty is always certain of their veneration and respect. They support poverty with courage and patience; but riches to them are often attended with danger.

There are some cantons in Sweden, where the manners of the people are still truly patriarchal, and display the utmost purity, innocence and candour. Ye travellers endowed with upright and feeling hearts, hasten to behold this interesting spectacle; it is superior to that exhibited by the wonders of art, and the monuments of pomp and luxury! But delay not; corruption already begins to diffuse abroad her destructive breath, and more than one trace of its baneful influence are already to be perceived. Pernicious maxims, a taste for frivolous objects, and the ambition of imitating other nations, whose manner of living is generally  
boasted

boasted of, will insensibly produce a revolution, which every virtuous citizen must lament. The excessive use of spirituous liquors is no less dangerous and destructive to good morals; the number of the places where they are sold increases every day, and some of them may be met with at every step, on the most frequented roads. Thither the labourer and the artist go, to sacrifice both their health and money, to swallow a destructive poison, which enervates their bodies, and renders them stupid.

The Swedes are distinguished from other people of Europe by a national dress, established in 1777, with the laudable design of repressing luxury in the article of clothes. The men wear a close coat, very wide breeches, strings in their shoes, a girdle, a round hat, and a cloak. The usual colour is black. In court dresses, the cloak, the buttons, the girdle, and the shoe strings are of a flame colour. The women wear a black robe, with puffed gauze sleeves, a coloured sash and ribbands. Those who go to court, have their sleeves of white gauze.

There is also a particular uniform for gala days. The men appear in a blue fatin suit, lined with white, and ornamented with lace; the women in a white fatin robe, with coloured sashes and ribbands. Two days of the year, the first of May, and Midsummer, are in Sweden particularly consecrated to public mirth and joy. On the first of May, large fires, which seem to announce that natural warmth about to succeed the severity of the winter, are kindled in the fields; around these people assemble, while others go to enjoy good cheer, and with the glass in their hands to banish care and sorrow. Midsummer day is still better calculated to inspire mirth and festivity: the fine season is then established; the sun every where diffuses his vivifying rays; the tenants of the woods, freed from their long captivity, tune their throats to joy; the flocks range the fields at their ease, to taste the juicy grass; and man, awakened from that lethargy into which he has been sunk, together with all nature, seems to be animated by a new soul, while his faculties resume their



their wonted vigour, and his heart becomes open to the soft impressions of sensibility. On the evening before this happy period, the people assemble ; the houses are ornamented with boughs, and the young men and young women erect a pole, around which they dance till morning. Having recruited their strength by some hours of repose, they repair to church, and after imploring the protection of the Supreme Being, they again give themselves up to fresh effusions of joy, which undoubtedly are no less agreeable to the father of mankind, than reciting prayers and hymns. During these two festivals, the people display all their gaiety by dances and songs, the greater part of which are national, and partake somewhat of the climate.

The inhabitants of the southern provinces, endeavour to provide places of shelter from the heat ; and those of the north, living near the abode of Boreas, employ all their ingenuity to preserve themselves from the cold. This art is well known in Sweden : pelisses, cloaks, great coats, and boots  
lined

lined with furs, are of excellent service. The greater part of the houses are of wood; but when well constructed, and kept in repair, they are warmer than those built of brick or stone: they likewise contract less moisture, and are not so apt to retain that nourisher of cold. The seams of the windows are daubed over with pitch or cement, and double ones are sometimes employed; but these are attended with a very sensible inconvenience in winter, by rendering the apartments too dark. The stoves are constructed in such a manner as is most suitable to the country; the tubes of them are so twisted as to make the heat circulate, and to prevent it from being too soon dissipated: by means of a lever, the air may be condensed and rarefied at pleasure. Wood here is not dear, and little care is employed to save it. The price of provisions is equally moderate; but the case is not the same with labour, and objects of luxury. The lower classes of people live principally upon hard bread, salted or dried fish, and water-gruel; beer is their ordinary beverage, and they

can procure it exceedingly cheap. At the tables of the rich and opulent, there is always plenty of meat, and the repast is preceded by a kind of collation, consisting of butter, cheese, salt provisions, and strong liquors. Strangers are astonished to see women here often swallow large quantities of these liquors, and with the same ease as the men. The consumption of wine is very great in Sweden; but people seldom drink it to excess. The use of tea and coffee is every day extended more and more.

One cannot travel in Sweden, without being struck with the arrangements which administration have formed for the convenience of travelling. They bear a peculiar character which is altogether national. The peasants furnish horses, each of which costs four schellings per mile, except in cities, where people must pay six. At each post, a certain number of them is kept always in readiness, and when these are not sufficient, others are sought for in the neighbourhood. The person who procures the horses, presents

sents to the traveller a book, the leaves of which are divided into several columns. In these the latter inserts the day and hour of his arrival ; his name and his quality ; the place from which he came, and that to which he is going ; the number of horses he has employed, and the manner in which he has been served. At the end of every month this book is transmitted to the territorial judge. The horses are small, and make little shew ; but they go very fast, especially in winter. The sledge may be said to cleave the air ; it passes over lakes covered with ice and snow, and you are at your journey's end when you perhaps think that you have only got half way. If you treat the peasants with mildness, you may make them do whatever you choose : it is only in the neighbourhood of the capital that they are self-interested and unruly. It is a great pity, that an establishment so convenient for the traveller, should be hurtful to agriculture.

Such are the principal outlines of the picture exhibited in general, by the character,

manners, and customs of the Swedes. By examining each province in particular, we shall, however, find various shades of a deeper or lighter cast. The Scandian, who cultivates a fertile soil, and who commonly possesses a moderate share of wealth, is sensible of his happiness, and imparts it to others. The Smolander his neighbour, placed amidst barren rocks, and melancholy woods, is humble, mild, and submissive: the smallest reward will satisfy him, and he testifies his gratitude in the most simple and affecting manner. The Westrogoth, who likewise inhabits a country little favoured by nature, is well acquainted with the resources of industry, and puts them in practice: above all, he understands to perfection every kind of traffic. The Ostrogoth has nothing against him but his name; he is distinguished by his politeness, his affability, and the easiness of his manners; he resembles that nature with which he is surrounded, and which every where presents itself under the most pleasing aspects. The vicinity of the capital gives to the Sudermanian,

and

and the Uplander, a double physiognomy, the natural features of which have been disfigured. The Westmanian prepossesses by a noble figure, a firmness and steadiness of character, and simple but mild manners. The inhabitant of that district called Norland, is very tall; has an intrepid look; and frankness and loyalty are painted in his countenance. The inhabitant of Finland is honest, industrious, enured to labour, and capable of enduring great hardships; but he is reproached with being stiff and obstinate. The Laplanders, who live on the borders of Norland, begin to be civilized; but the rest are still in a savage state, and acquainted with no other rule of conduct than the instinct of nature.

We cannot here pass over in silence that remarkable tribe, whose name alone recalls the idea of patriotism and courage. Under a rigorous sky, amidst mountains covered with snow, during eight months of the year, the Dalecarlians accustom themselves to the severest labours, and fear no fatigue. Like the rocks which surround them, they  
brave

brave every attack ; proud and intrepid, as all mountaineers are, they detest slavery, resist oppression ; and attached to their manners and customs, they transmit them unchanged from generation to generation. Short coats, all black or white, a long beard, and an uncouth but nervous dialect, distinguish them from the other inhabitants of Sweden. Placed upon an ungrateful and barren soil, they have often no other nourishment than bread composed of the coarsest meal, mixed with the bark of trees, gruel seasoned only with water and salt, or dried fish. These people emigrate, in great numbers, to seek for a maintenance in the more opulent provinces, and above all in the capital : they are employed in public as well as in private works, and in whatever they undertake, they shew as much intelligence as honesty. Whilst they are absent from their native country, they observe the strictest economy in their manner of living, and endeavour to save enough to enable them to return, and to supply their wants, which are not numerous. Simple, open and sincere,

cere, the Dalecarlians are not sufficiently on their guard against fraud and deception : the cunning of some dexterous adventurers has often engaged them in enterprises, as contrary to their interest as to that of the state; but the blame cannot fall upon them ; they have never entertained any criminal intentions ; the only object they had in view was, to support the privileges of the nation. The most brilliant period of their history is, doubtless, that of those exploits by which they signalized their valour under the banners of Gustavus I. ; they delivered their fellow citizens from the yoke of oppression, and at the same time saved their country.

The capital of Sweden has had the fate of all those proud cities, to which the riches of states are conveyed, and in which they are accumulated. Except some few shades, arising from different degrees of opulence and population, Stockholm exhibits the same scenes as other places of the like kind. Here we may see the madness of luxury passing from the superior to the inferior classes ; a taste for pleasure giving birth to a  
dislike



dislike for labour, and the performance of one's duty, and seduction sacrificing numberless unhappy victims, to gratify brutal and inordinate passions. Here also, we meet with abundance of professed gamblers, fine gentlemen and fine ladies, good-natured husbands, and modish wives who take advantage of their simplicity and condescension. The fashions and customs which are imported from France, always obtain here a decided preference: this, sometimes, produces singular effects, which form a whimsical contrast with the climate, and the indelible traits of national character.

Among the public amusements at Stockholm, those most worthy of notice are theatrical representations. The opera here has attained to a degree of perfection which astonishes strangers. Original pieces are sometimes performed; the rest are translated from the French: but the preference is always given to those which have music of Gluck's composition. The theatre, called the *dramatic*, is destined for plays, and the higher species of comedy: that called the

*comic* is set apart for pieces of a less serious nature, and for farces; but though both these theatres have made considerable progress, they have still need of improvement. The French comedy was formerly reserved for the court; but of late years, it has been open to the public. A taste for the drama has been diffused from the capital into the provinces: theatres are established at Gottenburg, Norkœping, Carlscrona, Obo, and Fahlun; and we are assured, that the managers derive great profits from them.

Government have established at Stockholm, a tribunal of police, on the plan of that at Paris: it is much respected, and has at its head the governor of the city. Watchmen are distributed in all the quarters of the capital, who go the rounds in winter from nine, and in summer from ten in the evening, till four in the morning. They call out the hours; and during the whole night, all the streets resound with the following words: *May the good, and all-powerful arm of God, preserve our city from fire and flames!* The hours are announced also,  
from

from the tops of towers, by an instrument, the melancholy sounds of which are not very agreeable to those who cannot enjoy sleep. Prudent arrangements prevent here the ravages occasioned by fires, and they will be still less dreaded when wooden houses have entirely disappeared. An order has been issued by government, forbidding any new ones to be erected, or the old to be repaired. The insurance office against fires has gained the confidence of the public, and the provincial cities, as well as the capital, may partake of the advantages arising from this institution. The streets of Stockholm are lighted during the winter nights, and some other cities have followed the example of the capital. For this purpose lanterns are affixed to the houses, or placed upon posts; but these luminaries afford only a feeble and uncertain light. Though the streets of Stockholm are broad and spacious, it is much to be wished, for the sake of those who walk, that they had foot-paths and were better paved. The public walk called the king's garden might be made much more extensive.

## C H A P. XXI.

## LANGUAGE.

**T**HE language spoken by the Swedes is little cultivated in other countries; but it deserves to be better known. It is characterised by force and energy; and though it has not that softness and flexibility which are found in some other languages, they are not, however, incompatible with its genius. This idiom, as well as the German, the English, and the Danish, is formed from that of the Celts, of whom the Scandinavians were descendants. When the inhabitants of the North were divided into several different nations, each having its own master, laws, and customs, it assumed a peculiar and distinct character; but this character was changed, during the union of Calmar, and afterwards, during those wars which Sweden had to support in Germany.

Germany. The facility of confounding the German and Danish with their own language having misled the natives of Sweden, they adopted, without being sensible of it, a great number of expressions and phrases, used both in Denmark and in Germany.

About the middle of this century, John Ihre, professor of belles lettres at Upsal, was commissioned by queen Ulrica Eleonora to translate into Swedish the *Ladies Library*, by Sir Richard Steele. This labour giving the learned professor an opportunity of making researches into the language of his country, he published a *Glossarium Sueo-Gothicum*, a master-piece of criticism and erudition, in which the author displays, with uncommon sagacity, the analogy and etymology of that language which he wishes to make known. Other writers have since employed their talents on the same subject: they have established rules, fixed the orthography, at least in a certain degree, and freed the Swedish from a number of foreign phrases, and modes of expression,

which corrupted its purity and originality. Happy geniusses, guided by the lamp of taste, have produced works which are distinguished by the elegance and correctness of their style. The principal object of the Swedish academy, lately founded, is to improve the language: it intends to publish a dictionary and a grammar.

There are in Sweden, as in all other countries, a variety of dialects: that of Scandia has such a near affinity to the Danish, as sufficiently shews that province to have been long subject to Denmark: that of Dalecarlia differs widely from the Swedish, properly so called; it is a particular dialect, which has preserved the energy and rudeness peculiar to the ancient Gothic. It is even pretended, that, in the most remote districts of Dalecarlia, the inhabitants still make use of the Runic characters.

The Fins and the Laplanders have each a particular language: that used by the former has, according to the opinion of some Swedish literati, a great affinity with the  
Greek;

Greek ; others make it to be derived from the Hebrew. There is a great similitude between the language of Finland and that of Lapland. Ihre pretends that these two languages, originally very little different, were prevalent in Scandinavia before the arrival of Oden and the Goths. This assertion he supports by the testimony of several Islandic historians ; and he besides quotes some words, still preserved in the Swedish language, the origin of which cannot be found but in those of Finland and Lapland. A Finland bishop, named Juslenius, has favoured the literary world with a Finlandic and Latin Dictionary ; and Mr. Œhrling, a native of Lapland, has lately published one, Laplandic, Swedish, and Latin, accompanied with the Laplandic Grammar of Mr. Lindahl. To these two works is prefixed a very curious preface, written by John Ihre a little before his death, which happened in 1780. This learned man had made himself known before by several productions which displayed great erudition, sound criticism, and fine taste : his Glossary,

and researches respecting the translation of the Bible by Ulphilas, procured him the most flattering applauses both in Sweden and in foreign countries. Ihre was born at Lund, in Scandia, in the year 1707. Having distinguished himself by his abilities, he was appointed secretary to the Royal Academy of Sciences and Belles Lettres at Upsal; and in 1738, he obtained the professor's chair for politics and eloquence, founded by the senator Skytte in the beginning of the last century. The new professor supported the reputation of this chair, which had been filled by Freinshemius and Scheffer, and his audience was no less numerous and brilliant than those of Linnæus and Wallerius, who taught at the same time, the one natural history, and the other chemistry. In his lectures Ihre did not follow that tedious and pedantic course which, while it facilitates the labour of the master, retards the progress of the scholar: his method was clear and philosophical, and his lively and affable disposition, added to a happy memory, enriched with a variety of pleasing



pleasing anecdotes, gave his lessons certain charms, which captivated his pupils, and engaged their attention. Directed by sound taste, and being thoroughly acquainted with ancient literature, he opened to young people those valuable treasures from which genius acquires so much improvement. As a reward for his labours, he received from government the title of counsellor of the chancery, a patent of nobility, and the order of the polar star. The man of letters has, perhaps, no need of these distinctions, which are foreign to his condition, and which have no analogy whatever with his kind of merit. The internal applause of a mind that can rise superior to vulgar prejudices; the esteem of those who are competent judges, and the glory of enlightening and instructing mankind, ought to be sufficient: but if a wise and generous administration wishes to discover any other means of encouraging talents, let it procure to those whom nature hath endowed with them, such a situation as may preserve

serve them from that want which often degrades the most respectable characters, and checks the efforts of the most brilliant genius.

## C H A P. XXII.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

**W**HEN an unexpected revolution dissipated the clouds of ignorance in the southern parts of Europe, Sweden still felt the fatal effects of the union of Calmar. The kingdom was a prey, at that period, to every evil that can arise from tyranny and oppression.

The Danish yoke was, however, at length broken, and Christiern, for the instruction of those detestable tyrants who tread under foot the laws of justice, and whose rod of iron crushes humanity, made a kind of atonement for his shocking crimes by shame and remorse. Gustavus I. swayed the Swedish sceptre ; but this monarch was not able to forward the progress of the arts and the sciences with sufficient energy, as his attention was engaged with objects of  
much

much greater importance. He rebuilt cities destroyed by fire, relieved poor peasants oppressed by tax-gatherers, and encouraged agriculture, industry, and commerce. Gustavus Adolphus, who mounted the throne in the succeeding century, has been represented by respectable writers as repelling the Muscovites and the Poles, humbling the pride of the Cæsars, and avenging the victims of fanaticism; but a vast field still remains for those who may wish to celebrate his pacific virtues. Possessing as much wisdom as heroism, he repaired, by his benevolent administration, the misfortunes attendant on war; and he encouraged literature, which he was fond of, and cultivated himself. His expedition into Germany, and the close alliance which it gave rise to between Sweden and France, produced in the character and manners of the Swedes a revolution favourable to the progress of the arts.

Christina considered her subjects as unfit for mental labours; and though the learned foreigners whom she invited to her court might

might have incited the emulation of the natives, the conduct of this princess had but a very indirect influence upon the progress of literature and the arts. Charles X. sought only the glory of arms; but his reign was short: that of Charles XI. longer and more peaceful, favoured the efforts which the nation had for some time been making to become acquainted with these important objects. The din of arms, however, again arose, and Charles XII. revived that warlike ardour which had always characterised the Swedes, but which was then beginning to cool.

Peace being restored to the kingdom, after a war of twenty-one years, martial enthusiasm gave place to milder inclinations; and those labours which, by dispelling ignorance, banishing prejudice, and softening the manners, diffuse a salutary influence over the objects that appear to have little connection with them, were not forgotten. The muses established themselves in Sweden, under the wings of civil, political, and religious liberty, and the throne considered  
it

it as a glory to protect them. Louisa Ulrica, knowing the value of letters, honoured those who cultivated them with her esteem and friendship. Gustavus III. has followed the steps of his august mother.

In the preceding century the sciences, properly so called, had already engaged the attention of the Swedes; but it is, above all, since the beginning of the present, that they have distinguished themselves in that career. Linnæus produced a revolution in natural history, the system of which has been improved and extended by Solander, Jonas Bergius, Thunberg, and Sparrman; Wallerius, Bergman, Scheele, and Wilke, have thrown new lights upon experimental philosophy, chemistry, and mineralogy; Polhem, Klingenshierna, Celsius, Strömer, and Wargentin, have made very important discoveries in the mathematics, both pure and practical; and Benedict Bergius, Kryger, and Fischerström, have, with great success, applied the principles of the natural and exact sciences to agriculture, commerce, and industry. Nature has endowed

dowed the Swedes with a sound judgment, good sense, and that patience which is requisite for making observations. Besides, the zeal which they shewed for the public welfare on the death of Charles XII. a period when the face of the country was changed, and a new order of things arose, made them consider the sciences under a very engaging point of view; they saw the connection which they had with many branches of public economy, and a desire of investigating the mysteries of them arose in their minds, with that of contributing to the prosperity of the states.

It is of the utmost importance to every enlightened nation to have annals, in which the revolutions it has experienced, the exploits and manners of its ancestors, and the labours and virtues of the illustrious men it has produced, may be consigned to remembrance by able and faithful hands. As soon as knowledge was diffused throughout Sweden, the Swedes turned their thoughts towards national history; but at first with very little success. Under the  
reign

reign of Charles XI. large volumes were compiled, and Rudbeck, Werelius, and Peringschoeld collected immense quantities of materials. It was, however, necessary to unravel this confused mass, and to give animation to a body destitute of life : Benzelius and Wilde undertook this labour, and their historical productions, written principally in Latin, are clear, methodical, and accurate : they each form a whole, the details of which are connected with one another. Soon after, Dalin pursued the same career, the states having made choice of him to write the history of the kingdom in Swedish : the first part of his work appeared in 1747, and he afterwards continued it, and brought it down to the reign of Charles IX. This historian has been reproached with want of accuracy in certain points ; and his chronology, which he founds on the hypothesis of the insensible decrease of the waters of the Baltic, has been criticised ; but due justice has been rendered to his manner and taste. Dalin, indeed, wrote well ; he connects facts properly ;



perly; traces back events to their original causes; and his style is always pure, easy, and flowing. To his work he has prefixed a view of the manners and customs peculiar to the ancient Scandinavians: this piece abounds with information, and displays the hand of a master. Mr. Botin has published an *Essay on the Swedish History*, which is distinguished as much by order and method, as by the information it contains. It abounds with profound observations, well-drawn characters, and striking reflections; the style of it is elegant, rapid, and flowery; no work can be read in Swedish prose more agreeable: but the author brings down his narrative only to the end of the union of Calmar; and it does not appear that he intends to carry his labours farther. We have several volumes of a large history of Sweden by Lagerbring, who possessed a considerable share of criticism and erudition; but his method is bad, his style prolix, and he is often too tedious in his details. Like Mr. Botin, he has stopped at the end of the unfortunate period of the union of Calmar.

Besides these general histories, there are also particular ones. Some laborious compilers have published ecclesiastical and literary annals; and others have collected memoirs and anecdotes, from which an historian, guided by philosophy and taste, might derive much benefit. The history of Gustavus I. and that of Eric XIV. by Celsius, bishop of Lund, are instructive and interesting pieces, which will be read with great pleasure. A history of Gustavus Adolphus by Mr. Hallenberg, who is employed on that work by order of the king, will soon make its appearance. It is rather astonishing, that the pen of no Swedish writer has as yet been engaged in tracing out the life of Oxenstierna, who undoubtedly is a character worthy of attention. The history of other nations has hitherto given very little employment to the literati of Sweden; we can mention nothing of this kind, but an *Universal History, since the time of Charles V.* by Mr. Hallenberg.

If the Swedes have paid attention to the history of their own country, they have not neglected

neglected the geography of it. *Ancient and Modern Sweden* is to be found in all large libraries. This work is a collection of engravings, which represent the cities, harbours, castles, gardens, remarkable prospects, antiquities of Sweden, and every thing necessary to convey a just idea of that kingdom, under the double point of view mentioned in the title. It cannot, however, serve as a guide at present; for since the period of its being published, Sweden has experienced very considerable changes. Count Dalberg, as zealous a patriot as an able general, gave the first idea of this undertaking; and he himself furnished several of the drawings. Charles XI. and Charles XII. both favoured a publication calculated to advance the glory of the country over which they presided. These engravings were to be accompanied with historical and geographical descriptions; and this labour, which would have been highly interesting to foreigners, as well as to natives, was begun; but owing to some discouragement which the authors met with, the work was never finished.

The first map of the kingdom was published, by order of Gustavus Adolphus, in 1640. Since that period the surveying office has favoured the public with several general and particular maps, which are correct, and neatly executed. Vexionius, ennobled under the name of Gyllenstolpe, wrote in the last century a description of Sweden in Latin. The geography of that kingdom published in Swedish by Tuneld, a sixth edition of which is now ready for the press, is very much esteemed.

There is not a province of Sweden which has not been described. Very ample descriptions have been given likewise of all the principal cities: a clergyman has published a whole volume upon one parish. Those whose curiosity may lead them to pursue this subject will find a very particular and accurate account of all the productions, both Swedish and foreign, respecting the geography and history of Sweden, in a work, entitled, *Bibliotheca Historico-Sueo-Gothica*, written by the late Mr. Warmholz, on the plan of what Father le Long has done

done in the same way. Some volumes of it have already appeared, for which the public are indebted to Mr. Gjøervell, librarian to the king. This learned man has acquired considerable reputation, which he deserves above all as a journalist. He is the first person who in Sweden published journals and gazettes, which are, indeed, of real utility to national literature; others followed his example, and in this country the descendants of Dionysius Salo \* form a very numerous tribe.

Some very eloquent speeches have been delivered in the Swedish Diets, and in the Academy of Sciences. The eulogium on count de Tessin, by count de Høpken, is a master-piece of precision, energy, and strength: it procured the author the glorious appellation of the Swedish Tacitus. The eulogium on Birger-Jarl, and that of Gyllenhielm, which both gained prizes from the Academy of Sciences, display true taste

\* The first person who published a literary journal in France, under the title of *Journal des Savans*. T.

and eloquence: they were written by a young ecclesiastic named Lehnberg.

Though almost every species of literature has been cultivated under the sixtieth degree of northern latitude, it was found very difficult to familiarise the Muses with the Swedish idiom. France already possessed the master-pieces of a Corneille, a Racine, and a Boileau, when Sweden could boast only of a Ronfard, a Desportes, or a Theophile. About the middle of this century, however, it saw the reign of taste established in its bosom; and since that period it has had poets, whose productions do great honour to their country: Dalin, the father of poetry in Sweden, has written a poem, entitled *Swedish Liberty*, a tragedy, odes, and a great number of fugitive pieces. In his poem on Swedish liberty, consisting of four cantos, he celebrates that remarkable revolution which changed the constitution of Sweden, after the death of Charles XII.

The plan of this poem is as follows: On the death of Charles, Ulrica Eleonora, who succeeded him, assumes the reins of government;

ment; and while she is engaged in repairing the misfortunes of the kingdom, Liberty descends from heaven, and recommends her interests, which had been forgotten and neglected by Charles XI. and Charles XII. The queen having begged the goddesses to give an account of the fate which she had experienced in Sweden, Liberty, in order to instruct Ulrica by the history of her predecessors, traces out a picture of the revolutions of that kingdom, from its origin to the reign of the monarch who had lately expired. After listening to the discourse of the goddesses, the queen pays her a tribute of respect, and conducts her towards the throne, on which, at the same time, she places her husband Frederic, upon condition that he would protect Liberty. The new monarch having promised to comply with the wishes of his royal consort, shouts of joy resound from all quarters. While Ulrica Eleonora is sunk in deep sleep, she dreams that she is on the top of a mountain, from which she beholds, on the one side, a happy and contented people near the banks of the Mælar,

establishing laws, and regulating, by themselves, their labour and repose; but on the other side, a people become a prey to discord, and hurried by an evil genius into an abyss of misfortunes. When the queen awakes, she calls Liberty, whom she still observes near her, and making Sweden also appear before her throne, she addresses them both, and tells them the subject of her dream, and what terror it had excited in her mind. The goddess then explains those principles which serve as a basis to her empire, and advises Sweden to support them, if she wishes to enjoy peace and prosperity. Ulrica applauds this discourse, and having offered up vows for the happiness of her country, is immediately surrounded by a celestial brightness, and in a shining cloud raised towards the heavens.

Such is the plan of Dalin's poem. It may be readily perceived, that he has erred in more than one respect; but he makes amends for his faults by some very happy details. The poet represents the death of Charles XII. and the unhappy consequences  
of



of that fatal event in the following words:  
“ The illustrious Charles is no more : but  
“ the earth still trembles with that terror  
“ which the thunder and lightning diffused  
“ over it. The North is veiled by a gloomy  
“ cloud ; that nation, which five powers had  
“ not been able to shake, received from a  
“ paltry piece of lead a mortal blow ; she is  
“ oppressed by grief, and drops the bloody  
“ steel, since the hero is no more, who  
“ in every clime was alone worth an  
“ army. The ancient courage of the Goth  
“ is brought low with the unfortunate monarch,  
“ and is frozen with his blood. The chief stops  
“ in consternation, the soldier sends forth cries  
“ of sorrow, and an hundred heroes water with  
“ their tears the spot where their leader expired.  
“ By this dismal misfortune a valiant army  
“ vanished, as if all the Swedes had perished at  
“ Fericshall. The enemy, who before fled  
“ full of terror, now resumes courage ; the  
“ Muscovite eagles hover over our shores ;  
“ and the insolent Cossack, though his arm  
“ still trembles, now ventures to carry flames  
“ to the ramparts of Sweden.” In another  
place

place the poet thus traces out the portrait of Gustavus I. “ The latest posterity will celebrate the greatness of Gustavus. Swedish courage, before concealed in dark caves, and gloomy forests, now raises its voice, and appears in open day. A fugitive himself, but undaunted even in the midst of danger, the hero breaks the tyrannical chains of Christiern. He mourns for the death of a venerable father ; and the tears of Gustavus are mingled with those of his fellow-citizens. In vain does he seek for the council of his country—the strength and the noblest blood of Sweden. But if every thing else fail him, his courage still remains; he will find means to avenge his nation. A hidden spring issues with difficulty from the caverns of the earth ; as it advances it finds new obstacles ; but soon, swelled by auxiliary streams, it pursues its course with rapidity, waters the plains, and becomes capable of sustaining large vessels: Thus Gustavus opened to himself a path to glory.—A handful of combatants dared to appear in the field of battle ; but they were inspired by valour—Gustavus pro-  
“ ceded

“ ceded quickly towards his object; and he  
 “ at length banished from Sweden those ty-  
 “ rants who enslaved it. As the bright lu-  
 “ minary of day, when a thick veil obscures  
 “ the vault of heaven, pierces the clouds, dis-  
 “ plays himself to the desponding world,  
 “ comforts and revives it; so the Swedish  
 “ hero made his courage shine in the bosom  
 “ of that darkness which enveloped his  
 “ country—He brought back its wonted  
 “ splendour, and by the ascendancy of his  
 “ genius Sweden became the abode of li-  
 “ berty, and of virtue.”

Dalin has had a great many successors,  
 some of whom have made no inconsiderable  
 figure in this species of writing. The poem  
 of count de Creutz, entitled, *Ais and Camilla*,  
 is highly esteemed in Sweden: it de-  
 scribes the amours of two young lovers,  
 who lived in the Arcadian plains, and its  
 principal beauties consist in the harmony of  
 the verse, a happy choice of images, and  
 purity of diction preserved throughout the  
 whole. The odes, epistles, pastorals, and  
 satires of count de Gyllenborg are characte-

rized by a philosophy, which is in turns mild and strong. This poet has been less successful in his tragedies, and in his epic poem, where he celebrates the famous passage of the Belt, which rendered Charles Gustavus master of the greater part of Denmark. Madame de Nordenflycht is tender, plaintive, and sometimes languishing: we have by this northern Sappho odes, elegies, epistles, idylls, and an apology for the fair sex, directed against Jean-Jaques-Roussseau. Count Oxenstierna, whose name alone commands respect, published some pieces which do great honour to his genius: his ode on the death of Gustavus Adolphus possesses all that fire and elevation which are requisite in such compositions. He wrote another upon *Hope*, which will always be read with fresh pleasure; and in his two poems, entitled *Morning*, and the *Storm*, nature is represented with that happy colouring which distinguished the ingenious author of the *Death of Abel*. Mr. Kielgren, in his odes and satires, displays taste, genius, and imagination. He  
has

has translated into excellent verse several theatrical pieces of a very celebrated author. Klewberg, Leopold, Lidner, and Sjoberg, occupy a very distinguished rank among the Swedish poets.

The poetical fire may burn, therefore, amidst the snow, frost, and ice; and the poets of the North may even succeed in those kinds of poetry which seem to have the least analogy with the character of the country they inhabit. Natural talents, and the study of good models, apparently make up for the want of a serene sky, and of those inspiring scenes which abound in the more southerly countries.

There are some Swedish translations, but they are not numerous. The greater part of the ancient authors are still untranslating; and of the moderns a much happier choice might have been made. Those tedious and insipid romances, which present nothing but a series of absurd or improbable events; and which can neither improve the taste, nor the character of a nation, ought above all to have been omitted.

That

That useful art which multiplies the productions of genius; with which the ancients were not acquainted, and which the moderns have so strangely abused, has in Sweden attained to a very high degree of perfection. The Gothic characters, long employed, begin now to give place to the Roman. Several letter-founderies have been lately established. There are eight printing-offices in the capital, two at Gottenburg, and one at each of the following places, viz. Norkœping, Upsal, Lund, Obo, Linkœping, Strengnæs, Westeros, Wexjæ, Carlstad, Calmar, Wennerzburg, Gefle, Hernœsand, and Fahlun. Though Sweden boasted of being a free state as early as 1719, the liberty of the press was not granted till 1766. This is one of those many contradictions which occur in the annals of politics. The liberty of the press having occasioned some abuses which struck government, this privilege has been limited, and printers are now responsible for what comes from their hands.

The fine arts had their rise in Sweden under the reign of Charles XI. Lemke  
and

and Ehrenstrahl, both foreigners, but naturalized by their long residence in the kingdom, have left some very valuable monuments of their talents: the former painted the battles of Charles X. which are to be seen in the castle of Drottningholm; and the latter produced a portrait of Charles XI. a picture of that prince's coronation, and several other pieces, which are still admired by connoisseurs. At the same period, count Nicodemus de Tessin caused edifices to be erected after the best models of Rome, Florence, and Paris, while count Dalberg formed the plan of *Ancient and Modern Sweden*, the plates of which are well executed, both with regard to design and engraving. Among the Swedish artists who have distinguished themselves in the present century, we must not omit Lunberg, lately deceased, who excelled in portrait painting. Mr. Sergel will doubtless acquire a reputation still more brilliant: he may be ranked among the first sculptors of Europe, as the most striking beauties of the chisel are united in his works. It has been observed,  
that

that the Swedish artists are fonder of exercising their talents in foreign nations than in their own country ; and indeed this is not at all surprising, for they find in Italy, France, and England, advantages and encouragement which Sweden cannot give them. It was not at Stockholm, but at Paris, that Roffelin, Hall, and Wertmuller exercised their talents ; and nothing could engage Sergel to remain in his own country, but the generosity and munificence of a sovereign, who is an avowed patron of the arts.

Like most other countries in Europe, Sweden has its learned and literary societies. The oldest of these is the Royal Academy of Sciences, founded at Upsal in 1720, by Eric Benzelius, who was then librarian to the university, and afterwards promoted to be archbishop. This society first published a kind of journal, the intention of which was to give an account of the best foreign works that appeared. It afterwards published memoirs, which, on account of various obstacles, were for some time discontinued ;



tinued ; but they have been lately revived, under the protection of the duke of Sudermania : these memoirs are written in Latin. Mr. Aurivillius, lately deceased, was a long time secretary to the Swedish Academy of Sciences ; he was a man of superior erudition, and united shining talents to great modesty : he excelled above all in a knowledge of the Oriental languages.

In 1738, patriotism established the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm. Linnæus was among the number of its founders. Experimental philosophy, natural history, medicine, political economy, mathematics and mechanics, are the principal objects which engage the attention of its members. At the end of every three months they publish, in Swedish, a volume of Memoirs relating to these different branches of science. Discourses delivered by the members on being admitted ; those read upon any other occasion ; the pieces which have been judged worthy of the prizes proposed ; and economical dissertations, addressed to the society by citizens, zealous for the pro-

gress of the useful arts, are printed separately. Founded principally with the laudable view of contributing by its labours to public prosperity, the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm prefers useful discoveries, and memoirs on important subjects, to idle theories and rhetorical amplifications. It is not divided into classes, nor has it any of those nominal members, who seldom prove of any advantage to such institutions; and who, in other countries, are decorated with pompous honorary titles. Every three months a president is chosen from among the academicians, to direct the labours of the members. When he quits his office, he must deliver a discourse; and this regulation has procured the public a great number of learned and well written dissertations. The academy has two secretaries, both of whom hold their places for life; one of them has the care of the astronomical observations, and the other of the correspondence of the society. The academy has erected an observatory at its own expence, for the use of its members; it is a beautiful edifice, and  
stands

stands upon an eminence in the northern suburbs: it possesses also a very extensive building, in which it holds its meetings, and which contains the library and cabinet of natural history. This learned society have considerable funds, for which they are indebted to the generosity of several opulent patriots. Nicholas Sahlgren, a wealthy merchant of Gottenburg, gave them various donations, which would have done honour to a prince: they enjoy nothing from government but the right of printing almanacs. The academicians are allowed no salaries; but the two secretaries, the keeper of the cabinet of natural history, and the professor of experimental philosophy, receive a certain sum annually from the funds of the academy. The memory of deceased academicians is preserved by eloges and medals.

In 1753, Louisa Ulrica founded an Academy of Belles-Lettres in the capital, and declared herself its patron and protectress. Dalin, whose merit had raised him to the important office of preceptor to the prince royal, at present king of Sweden, seconded

the views of the queen, and being appointed secretary to this new institution, he directed its labours with equal zeal and intelligence. It published memoirs, distributed prizes, and Louisa Ulrica, who often assisted at its meetings, examined the productions of the academicians, and suggested happy ideas respecting the manner of rendering them useful and glorious. The passage of the Belt, by which Charles Gustavus astonished all Europe, but particularly the Danes, was the first subject proposed for a poetical prize; and it is rather remarkable, that Mr. Luxdorf, the successful candidate, was a Dane, who had celebrated in Latin verse the conqueror of his country. An unexpected misfortune, however, suspended the progress of this rising academy. Dalin being involved, at the diet of 1756, in the disgrace of the court party, was ordered to quit the capital, and forbidden ever to appear there again without permission from the states. The troubles by which the kingdom was then agitated, engaged universal attention, and even the queen herself could not bestow

upon letters that care which she had employed before. The academy, therefore, languished in a state of inaction, until peace was established, when it recovered its former activity, under the auspices of its founder. On the death of Louisa Ulrica, Gustavus III. declared himself its protector, and in 1786, his majesty drew out new regulations for it, and gave it the name of the *Academy of Belles Lettres, History and Antiquities*. To this literary society the public are indebted for five volumes of Memoirs on the Antiquities, History and Literature of Sweden: they contain also the eloges of such academicians as have died since its institution, and specimens of a translation of Tacitus, and of Pliny's Panegyric.

The origin of this academy naturally leads to the following reflection: A foreign princess exerted herself to give the Swedish muses that encouragement, which a princess of the nation had refused them. Christina neglected indigenous talents, and preferred exotic ignorance. Imagining that the former could never be called into life,

she deprived them of that energy which ought to have rendered her reign brilliant ; but Louisa Ulrica did them that justice which they deserved, and favoured that improvement which they were susceptible of.

The efforts of this princess were not ineffectual : emulation was every where excited, and geniuses favoured by Heaven marched forward to glory in the path of science. Several persons distinguished by their birth, and their zeal for the progress of national literature, formed a society who published memoirs, under the modest title of *Literary Essays*, which were continued for several years. It was during the meetings of this society, that the happy disposition which count de Creutz, count de Gyllenburg, and madam de Nordenflycht, inherited from nature began to be displayed. The latter had been the founder of this institution, and those who composed it unanimously elected her president. This remarkable woman was born at Stockholm, in the beginning of this century, and at a very early period of life shewed a great taste for reading.

reading. As she lived in the country with respectable parents, but of a strange turn of mind, who had retired from the bustle of the capital, she could find nothing to gratify her curiosity except books of devotion, a species of works which, though intended for a very laudable purpose, are often written in such a manner as to disgust some, and lead others into the most fatal errors. These were not the books which were requisite to a lively and ardent genius, eager for instruction: the book of nature was before her eyes; she read it with delight, and her imagination became heated. As soon as her poetical fire, which lay dormant, had found proper aliment, it was not long in displaying itself, and a hymn to the Creator was the fruit of her attentive contemplation of nature. Enlightened persons, capable of appreciating her talents, undertook to direct this young poetess in her studies; she learned therefore several languages, and read with great care works calculated to form her taste. Among those who assisted her in her literary pursuits, was a young ecclesiastic of

distinguished abilities. He was fond of his pupil, who repaid his affection with a kind return, and Hymen conducted the two lovers to the temple of happiness. Their days flowed on in such a manner as might have excited envy; but certain boundaries are assigned to human felicity: if mankind venture to pass them, fate avenges itself, and teaches them that as mortals they carry their pretensions too far. At the end of seven months the husband died, and left his disconsolate spouse plunged in the deepest distress. When the beneficent hand of time had mitigated her wounds, she resumed her books and her studies, and the public received, with deserved applause, the greater part of the poems which she published: her elegies above all gained her great reputation. Love occasioned the severest affliction to this feeling heart; and friendship proved equally fatal to her, as her comforter and her guide had been hurried from her by the cruel hand of death. She was afterwards acquainted with no other sensations than those of sadness; a gloomy melancholy conducted



conducted her insensibly to the tomb, and she died a victim to her sensibility, in the year 1763. Her reputation was known far beyond the limits of Sweden. Gefner, Haller and Holberg, have celebrated her talents and genius\*.

Gustavus

\* Sweden has produced in the present century, another woman no less remarkable, viz. the countess of Gardia, born countess of Taube. This singular character having, in the year 1761, paid a visit to the province of Dalecarlia, she learned during her residence there, that twelve of the inhabitants, accused of sorcery, were tried for their lives, and about to be condemned. On this intelligence the countess manifested the greatest compassion for these unhappy victims of injustice; and she began to suspect, from certain circumstances, that the accusation brought against them by fanaticism, had been listened to by credulous judges. Her indignation, however, was excited in the highest degree, when these Dalecarlians, informed how much she interested herself in their fate, convinced her of their innocence, and implored her assistance. Affected by their tears, she laid their case before a more enlightened and juster tribunal. They were honourably acquitted, and the generous soul who had saved them received not only their thanks, but those of the whole nation. A medal was struck to preserve the remembrance of this act of beneficence. Soon after, the countess of Gardia found another opportunity of manifesting the benevolence of her sentiments. Inoculation, received in most parts of Europe, was not yet introduced into Sweden. The enlightened part of the inhabitants

Gustavus III. who has shewn himself a distinguished patron of letters, with a view to leave a lasting monument of his zeal for their progress in Sweden, founded, in 1786, a Swedish academy at Stockholm, after the plan of the French academy at Paris. The literary society, known under the name of *Utile Dulci*, is a kind of order imitated from that of free-masonry : the arts which it cultivates are poetry and music, and it publishes, at certain periods, a collection of poetical pieces in the Swedish language. There is another society of the like kind at Upsal, which has taken the name of *Apollini Sacra*. Though the city of Gottenburg is consecrat-

bitants took every opportunity of recommending it ; but the multitude, guided by prejudice, refused to follow their advice. The countess of Gardia, however, prevailed upon three of the peasants to entrust their children to her, in order that they might be inoculated, and for that purpose she put them under the care of an able physician. Her hopes were not disappointed ; the children were soon sent back safe and in good health to their parents : from that moment the public shewed less aversion to inoculation, and by little and little, this efficacious relief against one of the most dreadful of maladies was employed throughout the whole kingdom. The countess of Gardia died in 1763, of a fever which she caught while taking care of one of her domestics who was sick.

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ed to Mercury, Apollo reigns there also. In that city there is a Society of Sciences and Belles-Lettres, who publish very useful and entertaining Memoirs in Swedish. The subjects which they hold forth to excite national emulation are generally well chosen : they have lately proposed the eulogy of Dr. Solander, the intimate friend of Sir Joseph Banks, together with this important question, “ Whether theatrical representations are useful or hurtful to a nation.” At Lund, in Scandia, there has been formed a Physiological Society, the nature of which is indicated by its name. It is principally indebted for its existence and reputation to Mr. Retzius, professor in the university of Lund.

Count Charles Gustavus de Tessin, well known by the distinguished part which he acted on the political theatre, was an enthusiastic admirer of the arts, and did every thing in his power to render them flourishing in Sweden. In 1733, he established at Stockholm an Academy of Painting and Sculpture, on the same plan as those of other countries.

countries. This academy has been considerably extended since its institution : at present it has an edifice belonging to it, which was given it by Mr. Meier, an iron-founder of great eminence.

The ancient figures of plaster, which Louis XIV. made a present of to Charles XI. are still to be seen in one of the halls of this building. The works of the pupils are exhibited every year, when the prizes are distributed. In 1786, some pieces were shewn executed by a peasant of Smoland, who, without any other guide than nature, had attained to the art of managing the pencil, and copying historical paintings with a tolerable degree of success. He afterwards received lessons in the academy. Those pupils who display superior talents and genius, obtain pensions from the court to enable them to reside some time in Italy.

Some amateurs of music have founded, at Stockholm, an academy for the purpose of promoting that art in Sweden ; but hitherto they have been deficient in resources. They may, however, acquire considerable assistance

from a lottery which government has permitted them to open.

Having giving an account of the different academical institutions in Sweden, we must not pass over those places in which are collected natural curiosities, master-pieces of art, and productions of genius. The cabinet of natural history, at Drottningholm, and that of Mr. de Carlsson, secretary of state, contain valuable treasures: Linnæus has given a description of the one, and Dr. Sparrman is now employed upon that of the other. The cabinet of natural history belonging to the Academy of Sciences, is become very extensive, since that of baron de Geer has been incorporated with it. The cabinet of minerals, in the College of Mines, and that of count de Bielke deserve the attention of the curious. The best collection of prints and paintings to be found in Sweden, is to be seen at the castle of Stockholm. Some individuals also possess riches of this kind. Mr. Van Breda has several pieces of the Flemish school, which are considered as of great value.

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We have already had occasion to speak of the library of the university of Upsal, which is the most remarkable in the country. The king's library, situated in one of the wings of the castle, is ancient, and well stored with excellent works: it contains also some curious manuscripts. This library suffered very much by a fire, which consumed the greater part of the castle, about the end of the last century: 18,000 printed volumes and 4000 manuscripts were destroyed by this accident. Among the latter, an historical piece written by Gustavus Adolphus was, above all, regretted: of this valuable manuscript nothing was saved but one or two of the leaves, which have been published by Mr. Benedict Bergius. The library in the castle of Drottningholm is not extensive, but it makes a fine appearance, and the books are well chosen and well arranged. That of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm increases every day by new acquisitions: it contains a complete collection of all the Swedish works now existing.

## C H A P. XXIII.

## ANTIQUITIES.

**T**HE remains of antiquity to be found in Sweden are not so remarkable as those which appear to the traveller under the serene sky of Asia, and on the classical ground of Italy and Greece; but they are nevertheless interesting, as they serve to elucidate several particulars respecting the history of the world, and of man. The Swedes have always set the highest value on them. In the last century, a multitude of works were published on these monuments of remote ages, and the helps they might afford to those who wish to be acquainted with the ancient history of the kingdom. This was the favourite object of the researches of Messenius, Rudbeck, Verelius, and Peringschöld. These learned men possessed as much patriotism as science: according to them, no country was so ancient as Sweden, and no  
monarchy

monarchy could be traced back so far. John Scheffer, of Straßburgh, when appointed professor at Upsal, undertook to reverse their whimsical and romantic systems. The wrath of the patriotic antiquaries was on this account enflamed, and the dispute became exceedingly warm. Verelius distinguished himself by his ardour; and the *Upsalia Antiqua* of Scheffer, a work abounding with erudition and sound criticism, occasioned between the two professors, a controversy which was not terminated but by the intervention of the court. The principal ambition of Verelius was, to prove that Sweden was the country of those Goths who conquered the Romans: as if it had been glorious to have for ancestors ignorant and barbarous men, who carried destruction and desolation along with them; and who defaced the most beautiful monuments of the arts and the sciences.

At the distance of half a mile from Upsal, is a village named *Gamla Upsala*, or Old Upsal, which was formerly the principal place where the worshippers of Oden assembled from all parts of the kingdom. A temple  
was



was erected here in honour of this deity ; but when Christianity was introduced into Sweden, it was stripped of its idols, and of all those ornaments which related to paganism. The edifice itself was, however, preserved, and it still serves as a church to the inhabitants of the village.

A little farther from Upsal may be seen an extensive plain, called *Mora*, where the Swedes formerly elected their kings. In this plain there is a heap of stones called *Moraſtenar*, or stones of Mora ; upon one of which, remarkable by its size, the elected monarch, it is said, mounted as upon a throne, in order to receive the homage of his subjects. On the rest were engraven his name, and the year in which he began to reign. Some of these stones contain the figures of the three crowns which Sweden bears in its arms. Stones ranged in a circular form, placed for the most part on small eminences, and in the centre of which arises one higher than the rest, often attract the attention of the traveller in Sweden. These were tribunals, where justice was formerly

administered : the principal judge was seated on the most elevated stone, and the rest took their stations around him.

Runic monuments are found here in great abundance, particularly in Upland and Sudermania. They consist of small eminences, each of which has on its summit a large stone, sometimes plain, and sometimes carved and ornamented with inscriptions. Under these monuments are deposited the ashes and arms of Scandinavian heroes ; those formidable warriors, concerning whom the Islandic romances relate such wonderful prodigies. The inscriptions on them have supplied a vast field for the conjectures of the Swedish literati. From some of them they have attempted to prove, that before the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the inhabitants of Scandinavia had rendered themselves celebrated by their wars, and their emigrations. This is certainly carrying matters too far : all these inscriptions are in Runic characters, which are peculiar to the ancient people of the North, and were brought into use by Oden. On several Runic  
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monuments may be seen the figure of a cross: this was the symbol of the god *Thor*.

Several monuments of the remotest ages are preserved in one of the vestries of the cathedral of Upsal. The most remarkable of these is an old block of wood, which by some rude chisel has been cut into the form of a human head. Certain Swedish antiquaries pretend, that this is the image of the god *Thor*, who was formerly adored, not only by the Scandinavians, but also by the Germans. He presided over thunder, and the phenomena of the air: he was the *Jupiter* of the Romans.

In the account of a journey through Sweden by count de Brienne, in the last century, we find the following singular passage: *Vestro-Gothicis sylvis* (he ought to have said *Ostro-gothicis*) *equitantes inducti, Lincopiæ, ob loci religionem non omittendæ, substitimus; ibi cippus lapideus, pertusus, explorandæ maritorum membra sitati, qui pares foramini approbantur, impares excluduntur connubiali toro: inde matrimonia stant aut cadunt pro modulo*

*peculii* \*. This monument is not known to any person in Sweden : it must, therefore, have been created in the imagination of count de Brienne ; or Time, that merciless ravager who spares nothing, must have consumed it, and destroyed even the remembrance of it.

\* The indelicacy of this passage will not admit of a translation. We shall however observe, for the sake of those readers who are unacquainted with Latin, that it alludes to a perforated stone, which may be truly said to have been *a standard for gauging manhood*. T.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT SIGNED BY THE  
STATES OF SWEDEN IN 1772.

ART. I. **U**NITY of religion, and of true worship, being one of the firmest supporters of every respectable, well established, and solid government, the king, as well as every person in office, and all subjects, shall remain, for the future, attached as before to the pure and clear word of God, as contained in the writings of the prophets and apostles, and interpreted in Christian creeds, the catechism of Luther, and the confession of Augsbург, and such as it was ratified by the synod of Upsal, as well as by the resolutions and declarations of the state; so that the rights of the church may be supported, without prejudice, however, to the prerogatives of the king, the crown, and the Swedish nation.

ART. II. It belongs to the king to govern his kingdom, according to the manner prescribed by the Swedish laws. He, and

no other, has a right to maintain and preserve truth and equity; and to repress and abolish every thing that is not just. He shall not, however, make any attempt against the life, honour, person, or happiness of any subject, until sentence of condemnation has been pronounced by the law. He shall neither seize, nor cause to be seized, any goods, whether moveable or immoveable, without a legal judgment and judicial examination. He governs, therefore, according to the royal law, the code of the kingdom, and the present form of government.

ART. III. With regard to the succession to the throne, no change whatever is made in the convention agreed upon and approved at Stockholm in 1743; nor in that stipulated by agreement at Westeros in 1544, and by the convention of Norkœping in 1604.

ART. IV. Next to the royal majesty, the most eminent dignity has at all times been, and shall for the future remain, attached to the body of senators, whom the king shall choose,

choofe, and name himfelf from among the order of the nobility, natives of Sweden. Though their number cannot be invariably fixed, fince as many are appointed as the wants and honour of the kingdom may require, they fhall not, however, exceed in general feventeen, comprehending the great officers of the kingdom, and the governor of Pomerania. Their duty and care muft be to affift the king with advice in important affairs, when they are called for that purpofe ; to contribute towards fupporting the rights of the nation ; to give the king fuch counfel as they fhall judge likely to be moft advantageous both to him and the kingdom ; to encourage the ftates and the people in general to be faithful and obedient ; to exert themfelves in preferving the rights, privileges, independence, and welfare of the king and kingdom ; and, agreeably to the diet of 1602, to advife as the nature of their office requires, and not to govern. In fhort, the fenators are not fubordinate but to the king, and are refponfible to him only for their advice. The king cannot reproach

nor blame them for any bad success that may happen, contrary to their expectation or opinion, founded upon probable reasons ; especially if those entrusted with the execution of them do not follow the orders which they receive.

ART. V. It belongs to the king to govern, support, defend, and protect the cities and territories of the kingdom, together with their rights, and those of the crown, as prescribed by the law and this form of government.

ART. VI. As negotiations respecting peace, armistices, and alliances, whether offensive or defensive, will seldom admit of the least delay, and necessarily require the greatest secrecy, the king on such important occasions must consult the senators, and, after having heard their different opinions, must pursue such measures as he may judge most advantageous to the state. If the senators are unanimous in their opinion, and if this opinion is contrary to that of the king, his majesty must acquiesce ; but if the opinions of the senate are divided, the king must examine



amine them, and adopt that which he may judge wisest and most useful.

ART. VII. If the king is a foreigner, he cannot leave the kingdom without the knowledge and consent of the states. If he is a Swede by birth, he may communicate his design to the senate only, and take the opinion of the senators, as prescribed in the preceding article.

ART. VIII. That the affairs of the state may be expedited with the greater readiness and order, they shall be divided among the senators, in such a manner as may appear to his majesty most useful; since his majesty, as the chief of the kingdom, is responsible to God and his country only, for his administration; and in all cases whatever, when the king has heard the opinions of the senators, who are consulted and made acquainted with the state of affairs, he is then to decide. Affairs of justice are, however, excepted, which must be referred to the courts of justice, and the other civil or military tribunals of the kingdom. These affairs shall be submitted in the last instance  
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to the revision of justice, which shall always be composed of seven senators, who have had judicial employments, and who are known to be well skilled in jurisprudence, and experienced in the laws. The king shall preside in person, as on other occasions; but he shall have only two votes, and the casting one in cases of parity.

ART. IX. It belongs only to the king to pardon and forgive those who have forfeited their honours, life, or estates, in all cases where the crimes are not directly contrary to the clear word of God.

ART. X. All military employments, from that of lieutenant-colonel to that of field-marshal, these two ranks included, as well as all employments of the same rank, both civil and ecclesiastical, shall be conferred by the king in the senate, and in the following manner: When there are any places vacant, the senate must enquire into the merit and capacity of those who have a right to aspire to them, and who may be admitted as candidates. After this, they shall make their report to the king; and when his majesty has  
declared,

declared, in the assembly of the senators, the name of the person whom he has thought proper to choose, the senators shall cause to be inserted in their registers such observations as they may find necessary; but they shall not be permitted to vote any farther on this subject. For all other employments the colleges, or other bodies authorized for that purpose, shall propose to the king those persons whom they think best qualified to fill the vacant place. They may also propose any other persons of merit, not belonging to the colleges, and announce all those who aspire at the vacant place, and who are properly qualified to fill it. As to what concerns vacant places in regiments, those regulations shall be observed which were established by an ordinance of Charles XII. bearing date November 6, 1716: if it be found that any one has been injured, or passed over without reason, those who have been guilty of this act of injustice shall be responsible for it. Among the number of candidates, the king shall choose those whom he considers to be most capable. All em-

ployments of lesser importance, which the colleges, consistories, or chiefs of regiments were accustomed to confer, shall for the future be under their nomination. Foreigners not born in Sweden, whether princes or others, shall neither be employed in nor appointed to offices of state, whether civil or military, the king's court excepted, unless those persons possess such eminent qualifications, and superior abilities, as are likely to do honour to the state, and to prove of extraordinary utility to it. Talents and experience shall be the only title to all these offices, without regard either to interest or birth, when these advantages are not united with capacity. In appointing the archbishop, bishops, and superintendants, the ancient usage shall be observed; and the king shall name one of three competent persons, presented to him by those who enjoy that right. In the nomination of rectors, what is enjoined by the form of government in 1720, and by public ordinances since that period, shall be observed in every point.

ART. XI. It belongs only to the king, to

raise to the rank of nobility those who by their fidelity, virtue, courage, knowledge, and experience have deserved well of the king and their country. But as the nobility are very numerous in Sweden, the king must be contented to limit the number of those ennobled, to an hundred and fifty; and the equestrian order cannot refuse admittance to these one hundred and fifty families. They cannot refuse admittance either, to those whom the king may have honoured with the title of count, or baron, and who have merited this distinction by signal services.

ART. XII. All other affairs, not already mentioned, shall be proposed to the king in the cabinet, or in one of the divisions of the senate, when his majesty shall think proper, or in a full assembly, when his majesty wishes to have the opinions of a greater number of senators. The case, however, shall still be the same as if these matters had been proposed in the cabinet.

ART. XIII. As the kingdom is very extensive, and public affairs too numerous and too important for the king to overlook them  
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all, his majesty must have recourse to secretaries, and other assistants.

ART. XIV. For the continual and regular dispatch of business, colleges have been established, with the right and power of issuing orders and commands in the name of the king, each in their department to those who are subordinate to them.

The articles included between the fourteenth and the twenty-ninth, contain the organisation and functions of the colleges, tribunals, and other bodies destined to assist the monarch in the internal administration of the kingdom.

ART. XXIX. The marshal of the kingdom, or the grand marshal, is entrusted with the superintendence of the court, the castle, and the king's household. He shall regulate and order every thing that concerns his majesty's table, his officers, and other objects of the same nature.

ART. XXX. The king's court is under the particular controul of his majesty, who may change, and amend in it, whatever he thinks proper.

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ART. XXXI. The governor-general of Stockholm, the captain-lieutenant, and the quarter-master of the drabans, the colonel and lieutenant-colonel of the guards, the colonel of the regiment of body guards, the colonel of the horse guards, the colonel and lieutenant-colonel of artillery, the aids de camp general, and the commanders of the fortresses on the frontiers, are posts of trust, which his majesty may bestow, and take away, in the senate assembled, but without proceeding to votes.

ART. XXXII. The colleges must mutually assist and support each other, in every thing that tends to promote the king's interest, and that of the realm; but they are not to encroach upon each other's rights, or in any manner impede the exercise of them: on the contrary, each must exert itself with ardour and zeal in its own department. The presidents, when absent, cannot give any orders; the oldest of the members of the college must assume their place.

ART. XXXIII. The governments shall remain in the same state in which they are  
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at present ; and there must be no governor-general in the kingdom, except on some particular occasions, and for a limited time. No domain or fief shall therefore be bestowed ; but they shall remain distributed in the same order as at present, and as was settled by the form of government of 1720.

ART. XXXIV. The presumptive heir to the throne, and the princes of the blood of Sweden, can hold no domain or government general for life ; but they must be contented with a salary in money, which shall be assigned to them from the revenues of the kingdom, and which for hereditary princes must not exceed the sum of 100,000 dollars, reckoning from the day when they are declared major, which shall be when they have entered the twenty-first year of their age. Princes of the blood, who are in a more distant degree from the crown, shall enjoy an annual income proportioned to their birth. They may be decorated with the title of any duchy, or principality, as was formerly usual ; but without having a right to those provinces from which they derive their titles.

ART.



ART. XXXV. With regard to the maintenance of the prince royal, who is always the eldest son of the reigning king, or his grandson in the direct line, it shall be regulated exactly in the same manner as that of the son of the deceased Adolphus Frederic, our most gracious sovereign now on the throne, Gustavus III. The prince royal shall be intitled to sit in the senate when he has accomplished his eighteenth year.

ART. XXXVI. No prince of the blood in Sweden, whether prince royal, hereditary, or any other, shall enter into a contract of marriage without the knowledge and consent of the king. If he does not conform to the above regulation, the laws of Sweden respecting this point shall be put in execution, and his children shall be declared incapable of succeeding to the throne.

ART. XXXVII. If the king should fall sick, or undertake a long journey, the government shall be placed in the hands of certain senators appointed by his majesty; but in case the king should be taken ill so

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suddenly that he cannot make the necessary arrangements respecting the affairs of the kingdom, all dispatches shall then be signed by the four oldest senators, and the president of the chancery, who in concert shall exercise the royal authority in all matters whatever which cannot admit of delay; but they shall not have power to confer any office, or conclude any alliance, until the king shall have so far recovered his health as to be able to attend to public business himself; and then those persons who have held the reins of government during his illness shall give an account to him of their administration. Should the king happen to die while the presumptive heir to the throne is under age, and a minor, the regency shall be established as before mentioned; and employments shall be in the interim conferred, unless the deceased king may have made some testamentary disposition; in which case his majesty's will shall serve as a regulation.

ART. XXXVIII. The states shall not fail to assemble when convoked by the king,

king, at the time and place specified, in order to deliberate with his majesty on the affairs of the kingdom. No person, upon any pretence whatever, shall have power to call the states to a general diet, but the king alone, except when the sovereign is a minor; and in that case his tutors shall exercise this right. But if the throne happens to become vacant by the total extinction of the royal family in the male line (a misfortune from which we sincerely wish that Divine Providence may preserve us), the states, by their own authority, and without being convoked, shall assemble at Stockholm, the thirteenth day after the king's decease, according to our act of agreement, dated June the 20th, 1743, which mentions the punishment to be inflicted upon those who endeavour by intrigues or cabals to impede the free choice of the states. In such unhappy circumstances, the directors of the nobility's hotel, the chapter of the cathedral of Upsal, and the magistrates of Stockholm, must publish the affair, as soon as possible, in all the pro-

vinces of the kingdom, in order that each of them may conduct itself accordingly. And as the governors of these provinces are then bound, each in his place, to cause the king's death to be notified to all the inhabitants under his government, a sufficient number of men must assemble, within the time prescribed, in order that the liberty of the kingdom may be protected and defended, and that a new royal line may be chosen.

ART. XXXIX. The states must maintain with faithful tenderness, in their full force and power, all the rights of royal majesty, such as they are established by the laws of Sweden: they must also preserve, support, and defend with zeal and vigilance every thing that appertains to the royal authority. They must consequently neither amend, change, increase, nor diminish any thing in the present fundamental laws, without the consent of the king, in order that the true law may not be violated by any act of injustice; and that neither the liberty of the subject nor the prerogatives of  
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of the sovereign be neglected or injured; but that each may enjoy his legal right. All the other statutes, established and considered as fundamental laws since the year 1680 to the present time, are abolished.

ART. XL. The king shall make no new laws, nor abrogate any old one, without the knowledge and consent of the states.

ART. XLI. The states shall make no new laws, nor abrogate any old one, without the knowledge and consent of the king.

ART. XLII. In the establishment of a new law, the following regulations are to be observed: When the states are desirous of making a new law, they must deliberate on the subject among themselves: when they have agreed, the plan shall be laid before the king by the four speakers, in order to have his sentiments upon it. His majesty shall then consult the senate; after which he shall form his resolution, assemble the states in the large hall of the castle, and in a short speech make known to them his consent, or the reasons why he cannot acquiesce. But if it be the king who wishes

to make a new law, his majesty shall first communicate his design to the senate; and, after the senators have given their opinions, the whole shall be referred to the diet. When the diet have maturely deliberated, and come to a determination, the states shall require that a day be appointed, in order that they may lay their consent before the king in the grand hall; but if their determination be in the negative, they shall transmit it in writing to his majesty, together with their motives, by the four speakers.

ART. XLIII. In case a new question shall arise respecting any law, as has happened several times lately, it shall be decided in the manner prescribed in Art. XLII.

ART. XLIV. Though the right of coining money is a peculiar prerogative of the crown; yet, in case it be found necessary to make any alteration in the value or alloy of it, such alteration shall not be made without the consent of the states.

ART. XLV. It belongs to the king to  
4 preserve

preserve peace, and protect the kingdom, particularly against every foreign force and enemy; but he cannot, without violating his coronation oath, and the act of assurance, impose upon his subjects any new subsidies, aids, contributions, or other taxes, without the knowledge and free consent of the states; except when the kingdom is attacked by an armed force: in such an unfortunate circumstance he has the right of pursuing such measures as may be most likely to promote the safety of the state, and the interests of his subjects.

ART. XLVI. The assemblies of the states shall not continue above three months at most; and that the kingdom may not be harassed by long diets, as has been the case hitherto, the king may, towards the end of that period, dissolve the diet, and send back the deputies each to his place of abode. If they have not consented, during the sitting of the diet, to the imposition of new taxes, matters shall remain on their former footing.

ART. XLVII. The states shall have a right to name those who sit in the secret committee, with whom the king shall deliberate

liberate upon such affairs as he may judge proper to be kept secret. The members of this committee shall enjoy all the rights which the states themselves possess; but in all cases in which secrecy is not necessary, every affair shall be proposed in a full assembly of each order\*.

ART. XLVIII. The king can neither declare war, nor commence hostilities, without the knowledge and consent of the states.

ART. XLIX. No books of precedents, except those concerning affairs on which the king has deliberated with the states, can be called for by them, or communicated to them.

ART. L. The state of the public finances shall be laid before the secret committee, in order that they may be convinced, that the money has been employed for the use and advantage of the kingdom.

ART. LI. If any member of the diet, unless where he is in fault, shall be injured by word or deed, during the sitting of the

\* A full assembly is called a *plenum*; and a full assembly of all the orders united is called a *plenum plenorum*.



diet, either in going thither or returning home, after he has made his quality known, such injury shall be punished according to the laws of the kingdom, and the culprit shall be treated as a disturber of the public repose.

ART. LII. The king shall protect the four orders of the kingdom in the full enjoyment of their privileges and rights lawfully acquired. No new privileges shall be granted to one order without the knowledge and consent of the whole four.

ART. LIII. The king alone shall have the management of whatever concerns the provinces of Germany: they shall be governed according to the laws of the Germanic empire, and their privileges legally acquired, and established by the peace of Westphalia.

ART. LIV. All the cities of the kingdom shall remain in the full enjoyment of those rights and privileges granted to them by former kings; in such a manner, however, that these rights and privileges must  
give

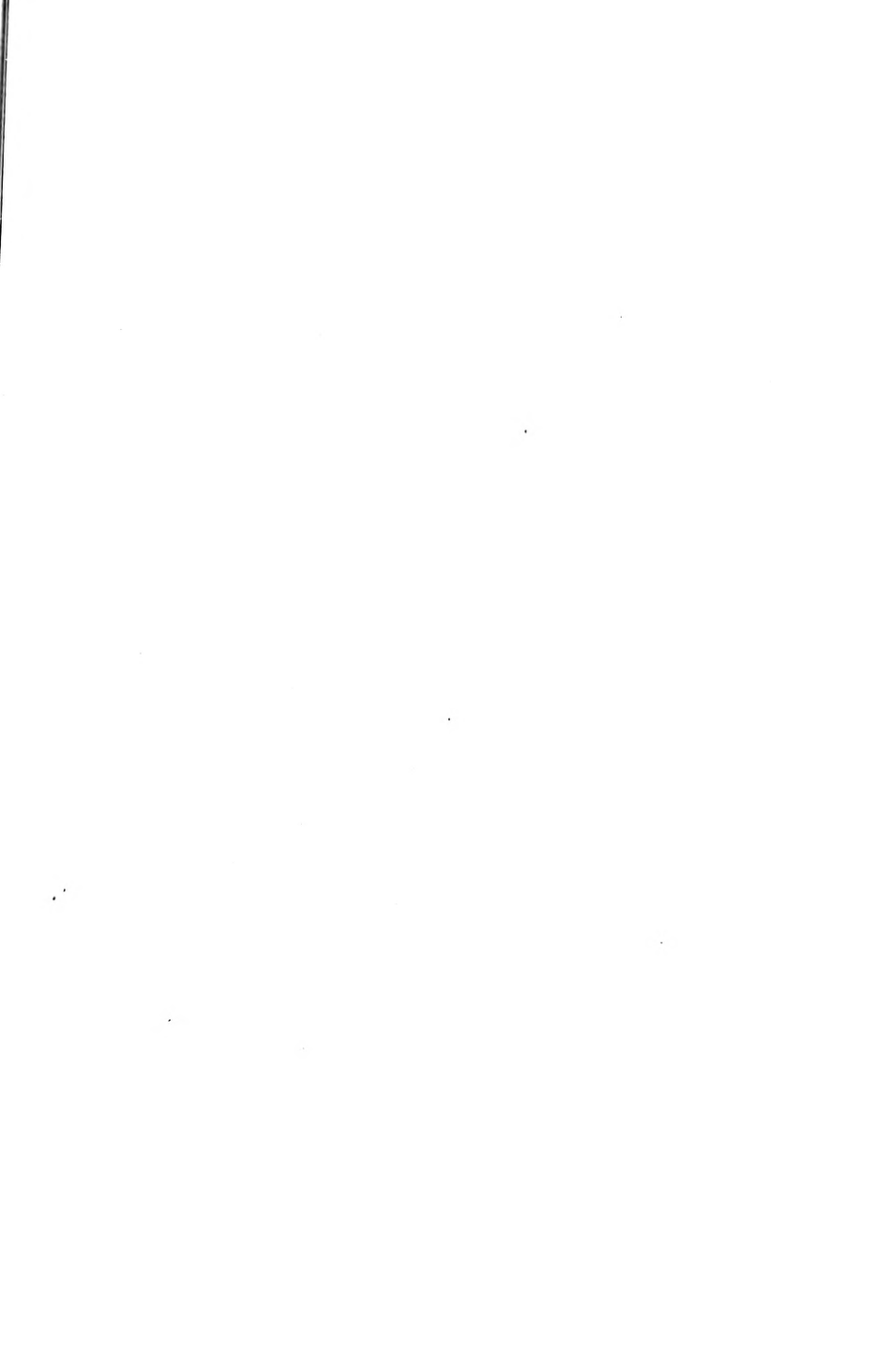
give way to the necessity of the times, and to the public good.

ART. LV. The bank of the states shall remain, as hitherto, under the guarantee and protection of the states themselves; and shall be managed according to the regulations and statutes already established, or to those which may in future be established by the states.

ART. LVI. The treasury for the payment of the army shall be managed according to the present regulations, and those which the king may afterwards make in concert with the representatives of that body.

ART. LVII. If any obscurity be found in the present law, its literal meaning shall be adhered to, until the king and the states have assembled on this subject, in the manner prescribed in articles XXXIX. and XLII.

T H E E N D.

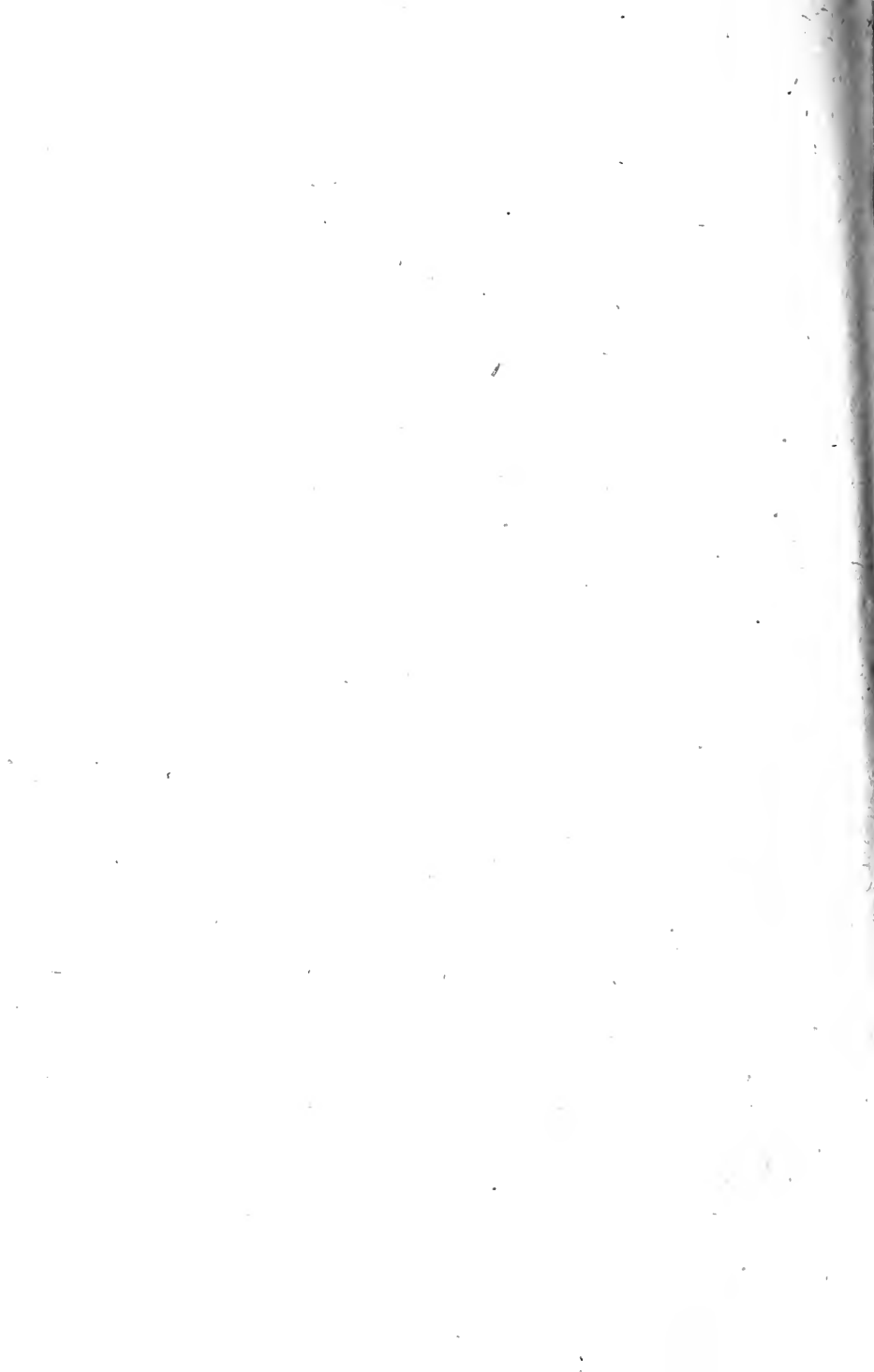


















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